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POST HARVEST CROP PROCESSING

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF SUGAR PRODUCTION SEASON STRESSED

Moscow SAKHARNAYA PROMYSHLENNOST' in Russian No 12, Dec 80 pp 2-5

[Lead article: "Successful Completion of the Production Season"]

[Text] This year, 1980, is the final year of the five-year plan and a year marked by a very important historical event for our Soviet people and all progressive mankind -- the 26th CPSU Congress. On the whole, the operational results for the five-year plan are greatly dependent upon the results for this current year. This imposes a great amount of responsibility upon the collectives of enterprises and organizations in all branches of the national economy with regard to raising production efficiency and the quality of the work being performed and also fulfilling and over-fulfilling the plans for 1980 and the Tenth Five-Year Plan.

The sugar industry workers are confronted by great and complicated tasks.

This year, in the interest of carrying out these tasks, the sugar industry workers performed a great amount of work directed towards the technical re-equipping of many sugar plants and increasing their production capabilities. A number of organizational-technical measures were carried out aimed at reducing beet and sugar losses during storage and processing operations and raising production efficiency and the quality of the work being performed.

In all, 803 permanent and 15 temporary beet receiving points and 324 active sugar plants representing an overall capability for processing 795,000 tons of beets daily were prepared for the acceptance, storage and processing of beets from the 1980 harvest.

At the beet receiving points, 1.27 million additional square meters of covered space were built, 153 motor vehicle scales having a lifting capability of 30-60 tons were installed, 316 clamp-forming machines and 659 tractor loaders were procured and 36 automatic lines for the selection and analysis of beet samples for impurities and sugar content and many other items of equipment were obtained.

The capabilities of the beet receiving points were raised to 2.86 million tons of beets daily and this is making it possible to accept, without interruption, all of the beets being supplied by the beet growing farms, in the volumes called for and during the optimum periods.

During the period devoted to carrying out repair work, the following items of equipment were installed at the sugar plants: 22 continuously operating diffusion units, 311 highly productive filters, 222 evaporator and vacuum units, 10 steam turbines. In addition, 40 new lime-gas ovens were redesigned and built and a large quantity of other items of technological equipment was installed and modernized.

As a result of modernization and technical re-equipping carried out prior to the commencement of the production season, the capabilities of the sugar plants were increased by 2,400 tons of beet processing daily. On the average, the overall capabilities of the plants make it possible to ensure the processing of all raw materials procured in just 125 days.

This year, a majority of the country's beet growing regions experienced extremely unfavorable weather conditions for the sowing, cultivation and harvesting of sugar beets and, as a result, the digging up and shipping of the beets were delayed by 10-15 days compared to the usual periods.

Notwithstanding these complicated conditions, the beet growers, machine operators, transport workers and agricultural specialists displayed a high level of organizational ability, they employed all of their knowledge and rich leading experience in carrying out the sugar beet harvesting work and they carried out a decisive campaign aimed at protecting the crop completely and delivering it to the state.

However, despite the measures undertaken, a number of sugar plants were supplied with considerable quantities of beets that had sustained mechanical damage or had high levels of dirt contamination or weediness. Such raw materials do not store very well and require immediate processing; thus they create definite difficulties in the operation of these enterprises.

Under these conditions, the leaders and specialists of the production associations and sugar plants evaluated the existing situation correctly and undertook a number of additional measures aimed at furnishing assistance to the beet growing farms in eliminating the existing shortcomings, accelerating the digging up and shipping of the beets and also improving their storage and processing, with minimal losses and maximum output of products.

The harvesting and processing of the sugar beets have been organized well in the Moldavian SSR, in Odesskaya, Kirovogradskaya, Khar'kovskaya and Poltavskaya Oblasts in the Ukrainian SSR and in a number of other beet growing regions throughout the country. The sugar plants in these union republics, oblasts and rayons, commencing with the very first days of production, are carrying out their work with high technical-economic indicators and they are fulfilling and over-fulfilling the established norm for the processing of the raw materials and also the plan for sugar production.

Thus, on 1 October 1980 the collective at the Chervonoznamensk Sugar Plant had a sugar yield of 12.94 percent, the sugar losses during production amounted to 1.02 percent and its molasses content was 2.08 percent of the beet bulk, at the Anan'yev plant the figures were respectively 12.68, 0.91 and 2.01 percent, at the Meleuz plant -- 12.64, 0.96 and 2.29 percent, at the Pervomaysk plant -- 12.49,

1.08 and 2.03 percent, at the Orel plant -- 12.44, 0.93 and 2.26 percent, at the Lannovskiy plant -- 12.26, 0.97 and 2.06 percent, at the Murafskiy plant -- 12.60, 0.92 and 2.06 percent and at the Dondyushany plant -- 12.01, 0.97 and 1.87 percent of the beet bulk. The processing productivity for sugar beets at these plants ranged from 104 to 110 percent or more. Many other enterprises performed in a similar manner.

The leading collectives achieved fine technical-economic indicators as a result of rhythmic and highly productive work by all of their production elements, a high level of work organization and discipline, an extensively deployed socialist competition and the use of more efficient forms for issuing moral and material incentives to those leading shifts, brigades and workers which achieved high operational results.

However, there were some sugar plant collectives which failed to cope with their assigned tasks and which performed in an unsatisfactory manner during the first month of production. Thus the 1st Olymskiy Sugar Plant fulfilled its average daily norm for beet processing by only 76.4 percent, Biysk -- by 77.0, 1st Sotnitsinskiy -- by 81.7, Kamenesk -- by 63.9, imeni K. Libknekht -- by 86.9, Ternovka -- by 70.3, Gorodenka -- by 78.6, Buchach -- by 79.5, Zolochev -- by 84.0, Bershad' -- by 84.3 percent and others. Considerable sugar losses during the storage, processing and transporting of the beets were tolerated by the Pavlovsk, 2d Ol'khovatka, Kalach, Biysk, Chernyanka, imeni K. Libknekht, 1st Olymskiy, Bershad', Vyshe-Ol'chedayevskiy, Radzhovskiy, Gorodenka, Orzhitsa, Ternovka, Shalygino and other sugar plants.

The workers attached to production associations and the food industry ministries of union republics must furnish assistance immediately to those enterprises which have fallen behind and ensure that sharp improvements take place in their operations. We cannot tolerate situations wherein beets which were grown under complicated weather conditions are processed with low technical-economic indicators.

The principal task of the leading workers and specialists at the sugar plants and associations is that of ensuring highly productive work by the enterprises, devoting special attention to the problem of preserving all of the raw materials procured, establishing strict control over the processing schedules for the beets, depending upon their condition in the clamps, waging a systematic campaign against losses in raw materials and sugar in all areas of production, exercising strict control over the records kept on production and output quality, undertaking immediate measures aimed at eliminating the shortcomings uncovered and processing all of the raw materials available as rapidly as possible and with minimal losses and maximum sugar yields.

The experience of past years reveals that the work carried out by the sugar plants during the winter period is considerably complicated: as a result of low temperatures and snow drifts, difficult conditions are created with regard to transporting the beets from the railroad points and supplying the refineries with limestone, fuel and so forth. Therefore, a requirement exists for preparing the enterprises for winter operations in a more rapid manner, completing work on the heating of production and domestic facilities and pipelines, preparing the snow removal equipment and the units and devices employed for warming the fuel oil and creating the required supplies of fuel, limestone and other production materials.

One of the principal tasks of industrial workers is that of realizing economies in their use of fuel and electric power, especially during the winter period of production.

The experience of leading enterprises throughout the country reveals that our branch possesses great reserves for further reducing fuel expenditures in production. However, individual sugar plant collectives are not making sufficient use of these reserves.

During this current production season, a number of sugar plants belonging to the North Caucasus, Vinnitsa and some other production associations realized considerable success in achieving fuel economies.

Thus, on 1 October 1980 the expenditure of conventional fuel at the Tbilisi Sugar Plant amounted to 4.52 percent of the bulk of processed raw materials, Novokubansk -- 4.95, Timashevsk (Krasnodarskiy Kray) -- 5.15, Uspenka -- 5.20, Kurganinsk -- 5.40, Brailov -- 5.33, imeni Bebel' -- 5.34, Kamenogorsk -- 5.40, Krasnoselkovskiy -- 5.42 and Turbov -- 5.40 percent. A number of other enterprises could also be cited where campaigns to achieve economies in the use of fuel-producing resources have been well organized and where the enterprise workers fully understand the importance of this task.

Unfortunately, there is a considerable number of sugar plants where 25-40 percent more fuel is being consumed than is the case at leading enterprises. For example, fuel consumption in September at the Kamensk Sugar Plant amounted to 8.25 percent, Kshenskiy -- 7.49, 1st Sotnitsinskiy and Valuyki sugar plants -- 7.40 each, Shalygino -- 7.07 and Sumsko-Stepanovka Sugar Plant -- 7.05 percent. Such fuel consumption rates cannot be tolerated.

The sugar plant and association workers must, without delay, direct all of their efforts towards ensuring the economic use of heat and fuel and wage a daily campaign against heat and fuel losses.

The leaders of food industry ministries in the beet growing union republics, production associations and sugar plants, in the interest of ensuring uniform raw material workloads for the sugar plants and reducing the duration of sugar beet processing operations, in conformity with the decree handed down by the CC CPSU and the USSR Council of Ministers entitled "Additional Measures for Ensuring the Timely Harvesting, Transporting and Processing of the 1980 Sugar Beet Crop" must accomplish the following:

...undertake the measures required to accelerate the inter-republic, inter-oblask and intra-oblask railroad shipments of beets and complete such shipments in the near future;

...prevent above-normal idle time for freight cars awaiting the loading or unloading of beets, limestone, fuel, sugar, molasses, dried pulp or other types of freight, since this causes great harm to the sugar industry and to the national economy on the whole;

...accelerate the transporting of all of the remaining sugar beets from the railroad points to the plants for priority processing, not permitting all of the beets

stored at plant points to be used, since this as a rule leads to considerable idle time at the plants as well as losses in sugar.

In an atmosphere of great political and labor enthusiasm, the Soviet people are making worthy preparations for the 26th CPSU Congress. Many collectives of sugar industry enterprises have undertaken raised socialist obligations aimed at ahead-of-schedule fulfillment of the 1980 plan and the Tenth Five-Year Plan on the whole. By improving labor and production discipline in every possible way and introducing into operations on an extensive scale the production experience of leading sugar plant collectives throughout the country, they are achieving great success in improving the efficiency of the sugar beet and sugar refining production operations and the quality of the work being carried out and they are honorably fulfilling their socialist obligations.

At the present time, during the remaining period of the production season, the industry's workers are obligated to direct all of their efforts towards the successful completion of the production season and towards achieving a maximum production of sugar from the raw materials processed.

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POST HARVEST CROP PROCESSING

INCREASE IN SUGAR BEET PROCUREMENTS CALLED FOR

Moscow ZAKUPKI SEL'SKOKHOZYAYSTVENNYKH PRODUKTOV in Russian No 10, Oct 80 pp 23-24

[Article by D. Sanakoyev, state inspector for procurements of technical crops of USSR Ministry of Procurements: "Methods for Increasing Sugar Beet Procurements"]

[Text] Sugar beets are considered to be the principal raw material for the production of sugar and a rich source of feed, obtained from the waste products of their production and processing.

The plans for the 1976-1980 period called for the average annual production of sugar beets to be raised to 95-98 million tons and sugar beet procurements to 89.5 million tons. During 4 years of the Tenth Five-Year Plan, the party and government carried out a number of measures aimed at further increasing the production and procurements of sugar beets and raising sugar production in every possible way. A great amount of attention was focused on raising labor productivity in the cultivation of sugar beets, on complex mechanization, the use of chemical processes and industrialization of beet production, on increasing and improving the quality of the sugar beets, raising the capabilities of the sugar plants, making maximum use of production reserves, reducing losses and increasing the production of sugar.

As a result of the measures undertaken and the tremendous amount of work performed by the beet growers during the 1976-1979 period of unfavorable weather conditions, considerable increases were achieved in the sugar beet production and procurement volumes compared to the 1971-1975 period. The average annual production of sugar beets increased from 75.9 million tons to 90.6 million tons and procurements -- from 67.9 to 79.8 million tons.

During these years, the material and technical base of the sugar refineries and their beet receiving points was strengthened. Five new sugar refineries were placed in operation and 90 plants were modernized, thus increasing the capabilities of the latter by 70,300 tons of beet processing daily. Mechanized beet receiving points were created at the new plants and in some areas mechanized storehouses having a capacity of 857,000 tons were created.

Approximately 3.6 million square meters of concrete space were built on clamp fields and 809 new motor vehicle scales were installed, of which number more than 60 percent were of the heavy-weight type. A majority of the beet receiving points were equipped with lines for determining the sugar content of the beets and the

pool of clamp-forming machines and tractor loaders was increased in size. The average daily capability of the sugar beet points increased from 1.6 million tons in 1975 to 2.7 million tons in 1979 and decreases were recorded in the average periods required for processing the beets.

The equipping of the sugar beet points with lines for determining the sugar content enabled all of the sugar plants to convert over completely to accepting the beets while taking into account their sugar content. Many beet growing farms cultivated beets having a sugar content that was higher than the basic refinery requirement and they received an additional payment for each percent of increase. In 1979 the additional payments made to kolkhozes and sovkhozes for having exceeded the basic sugar content amounted to 31.4 million rubles. The largest amount of additional payments -- 28 million rubles -- went to farms in the Ukrainian SSR. Of 428 beet growing farms in Ternopol'skaya Oblas', 425 received such additional payments.

The initiative displayed by the beet growers and workers at the sugar plant in Yampol'skiy Rayon in Vinnitskaya Oblast is being followed extensively throughout the country.

A technology for the mechanized growing of sugar beets is being introduced into operations on an extensive scale in Yampol'skiy Rayon. Proper use is being made of organic and mineral fertilizers. An entire complex of agrotechnical measures for the production of beets is being carried out strictly according to plan and in a high quality manner. Such an approach to the growing of sugar beets is making it possible to obtain high yields. Thus the average annual cropping power during 4 years of the Tenth Five-Year Plan increased to 426 quintals per hectare, compared to only 417 during the Ninth Five-Year Plan. Such stable growth in cropping power is making it possible to carry out the state plans for sugar beet procurements in a successful manner. During the 1976-1979 period, the overall volume of procurements was fulfilled by 105 percent. In 1979, the rayon's beet growers cultivated a fine crop of sweet roots and sold 328,600 tons to the state, or 31,900 more tons than the overall sugar beet procurement volume.

In addition to growth in cropping power, the yield of sugar per hectare of sugar beet planting is also increasing. In 1976, 41.6 quintals of white sugar were obtained per hectare, in 1977 -- 42.2, in 1978 -- 50.2 and in 1979 -- 50.6 quintals.

It is apparent that during 4 years of the current five-year plan a great deal has been accomplished with regard to increasing the production and procurements of sugar beets and strengthening the material and technical base of the sugar industry. At the same time, the sugar beet production volumes are not in keeping with the state procurement plans and the active sugar plants are not processing the beets in a timely manner or ensuring their complete preservation.

During the 1976-1979 period, the average annual procurements of sugar beets in accordance with the plan and contractual agreements should have been 88.8 million tons. The actual procurement figure was 79.8 million tons, or 89 percent. During these years, the state was undersupplied with sugar beets in the amount of 36 million tons, an amount which could have produced no less than 3.6 million tons of white sugar. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the RSFSR are under a great obligation to the state for having failed to supply it with more than 29 million tons of sugar beets.

The principal cause of non-fulfillment of the state plans and contractual agreements for sugar beet procurements lies in the fact that the beet production rates are not in keeping with the planned procurement volumes. In order to fulfill the sugar beet procurement plans in the USSR, each one of 3.7 million hectares of sugar beet plantings must produce no less than 260 quintals of roots per hectare and yield 245 quintals per hectare. During the current five-year plan, the actual average annual cropping power for sugar beets per hectare was 241 quintals and the yield -- 213 quintals.

There are a large number of farms throughout the country where the average cropping power for sugar beets is lower than 100 quintals per hectare and in individual areas it does not even reach 30-50 quintals. Such farms are to be found in Tambovskaya, Lipetskaya, Penzenskaya, Saratovskaya, Ul'yanovskaya, Orlovskaya, Tul'skaya and Ryazanskaya Oblasts, Altayskiy Kray and in the Bashkir and Tatar Autonomous Republics.

The extremely low yields being obtained in these regions are caused not by poor weather-climatic conditions, but rather by the fact that many farm leaders are failing to devote proper attention to the production of this very important technical crop. This results from the fact that the agricultural organs and procurement organizations in the various rayons and oblasts are displaying very little concern for the fulfillment of the sugar beet procurement plan.

On those farms where low beet yields are being obtained, the beets as a rule are not being sown following the best predecessor crops, nor is the autumn plowing being carried out in a timely manner. In addition, mineral fertilizers are not being applied in the proper quantities or ratios. Organic fertilizers are being applied in limited quantities and not on all of the areas under crops. Proper agricultural practices are not being employed in the sowing and tending of the crops. Manual labor predominates in the cultivation of beets, the schedules for thinning out and forming the planting densities are being dragged out and at times crop losses and re-sowings are tolerated. This in turn results in a thinning out of the plantings. A proper campaign is not being waged against weeds and almost no use is being made of herbicides. A portion of the crop is being lost as a result of low quality digging and untimely removal of the beets from the fields.

According to data supplied by VNIIS [Vsesoyuznyy nauchno-issledovatel'skiy institut sakharnoy sverkly; All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Sugar Beets], unsatisfactory predecessor crops lower the cropping power of beets by 30-50 percent and an incorrect mineral fertilizer ratio lowers the accumulation of sugar in the roots. Up to 20-30 quintals per hectare of the crop is lost owing to untimely digging and transporting operations.

Potential opportunities for further increasing the production and procurements of sugar beets are available on all of the farms and especially those where use is not being made of the available reserves. To an equal degree, the state supplies all of the beet growing farms with mineral fertilizer in the quantities required for beet production, regionalized seed, cultivation and harvesting equipment and transport vehicles for moving the beets from the fields to the beet receiving points. However, proper use is not always being made of these opportunities. For example, the central chernozem oblasts and also Penzenskaya, Ul'yanovskaya, Orlovskaya and

other oblasts of the RSFSR have fine conditions at their disposal for growing sugar beets. But here, despite equal soil and weather-climatic conditions, the sugar beet cropping power on individual farms fluctuates from 30 to 300 quintals per hectare. For example, the Komsomolets Sovkhoz in Tsel'ovskaya Oblast is obtaining 280-300 quintals of sugar beets from an area of 1,600 hectares, whereas the Muchapskii Sovkhoz is harvesting only 25-30 quintals per hectare from an area of 490 hectares.

In 1979, sugar beets were grown on roughly identical areas -- 350 and 330 hectares -- at the Keadynskiy and Verkhovskiy sovkhozes in Ramenskiy Rayon, Penzenskaya Oblast, but the cropping powers of the two farms differed greatly. At the Keadynskiy Sovkhoz, the production of sugar beets and fulfillment of the sales plan were carried out with a great amount of concern and responsibility and thus, even under the unfavorable weather conditions experienced here in 1979, 259 quintals of sweet roots were obtained from each hectare and the sales plan was fulfilled by 143 percent. The indicators for the Verkhovskiy Sovkhoz were quite different; here the plans for selling beets to the state are not being fulfilled. Last year, the sugar beet cropping power at this farm amounted to only 84 quintals per hectare and the sales plan was fulfilled by only 46 percent. Indeed it is possible at the Verkhovskiy Sovkhoz, assuming correct organization of the production operations and a responsible attitude being displayed towards the contractual obligations, to obtain no less than 200-250 quintals of this valuable crop per hectare and to fulfill the plans for selling it to the state.

The state inspectorates for procurements and for the quality of the agricultural products play a great role with regard to the organization of sugar beet production and procurement operations. Commencing with the selection of the sugar beet predecessor crops and preparation of the soil for the sowing work and also during the period devoted to tending the plantings, the state inspectorates exercise systematic control over all of the measures aimed at obtaining high sugar beet yields. When required, the state inspectorates jointly with the party and soviet organs carry out operational measures directed towards correcting the shortcomings uncovered.

The state procurement inspectorates are devoting serious attention to the acceptance of the sugar beets.

State procurement inspectorate workers who have been assigned to operational staffs for the purpose of inspecting the material and technical base and the course of procurements of this valuable crop also furnish assistance in correcting those shortcomings associated with preserving the crop and ensuring its delivery into the state's resources.

Sugar beet production and procurement operations are being carried out most successfully by the state procurement inspectorates in the Armenian SSR and in Poltavskaya, Khar'kovskaya, Chernigovskaya, Kuybyshevskaya and other oblasts. Here, during 4 years of the current five-year plan, the established volumes for sugar beet procurements were successfully carried out and a strong foundation was laid for fulfillment of the plan for the Tenth Five-Year Plan.

The state procurement inspectorate workers performed a great amount of work in connection with ensuring a high level of sugar beet production and procurements

during 1979 in Adyge-Khabl'skiy Rayon in the Karachayevo-Cherkesskaya AO in Stavropol'skiy Kray, where 123,000 tons were procured in 1979 against a plan calling for 117,000 tons; in Chernobayevskiy Rayon of Cherkasskaya Oblast -- 330,000 tons procured against a plan calling for 324,000 tons; in Pervomayskiy Rayon of Khar'kovskaya Oblast -- against a plan calling for 115,000 tons, 150,000 tons were delivered to the state; in Karlovskiy Rayon of Poltavskaya Oblast -- 155,000 tons were sold against a plan calling for 146,000 tons.

Together with the party and economic organs, the state procurement inspectors perform here in the manner of skilled organizers of procurements, individuals who are capable of achieving high indicators for sugar beet production and procurement operations in these rayons.

In 1979, there were 2,300 kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the USSR which obtained sugar beet yields lower than 100 quintals per hectare and 1,647 -- less than 150 quintals per hectare. The areas under crops were 729,000 and 574,000 hectares respectively. If the cropping power at these farms was increased to 200-250 quintals per hectare, the sugar beet yield would be increased by up to 13-15 million additional tons, an amount equal to the annual deficit in fulfillment of the procurement plan.

The possibility of increasing sugar beet production without expanding the areas under crops is fully realistic. It is necessary only to make better use of all existing reserves. In the interest of solving this problem, the state is supplying the beet growers with increasing quantities of various types of cultivation and harvesting equipment. Greater quantities of mineral fertilizer are being made available and the pool of motor transport vehicles used for transporting the sweet roots is increasing in size. Material incentives must play a great role in increasing the production of beets.

Further intensification in the production of sugar beets must be based upon complex mechanization and the use of chemical processes in their cultivation.

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PROBLEMS IN DEVELOPMENT OF CATTLE COMPLEX EXPLAINED

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Dec 80 p 2

[Article by KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA special correspondent R. Nasyrov (Talgarskiy Rayon, Alma-Atinskaya Oblast): "Reserves of the Meat Complex"]

[Text] The fattening of cattle is one of the most complex and labor-intensive processes in animal husbandry. Its conversion to an industrial basis has given rise to a multiplicity of technological schemes and methods oriented toward the realization of the set task. Industrialization of cattle fattening has been most completely solved at the Dzhetygenskiy Industrial Complex. The technology of growing and fattening animals has been worked out here to the smallest detail, and the process itself has been calculated with precision to a single day.

Geographically, the complex is "tied in" to the dairy farms of the suburban zone, from which it obtains calves that are 7-14 days old. From the first days, the young stock accustoms itself to the conditions of maintenance at the complex and better digests regenerated milk and displays a high growth energy. Moreover, dairy farms, in turning over the care of calf growing to the complex, have the possibility of fuller utilization of fodder and barns for maintenance of cows and of significantly boosting their relative share in the herd.

The receiving of calves from the farms is strictly regulated. Every 13 days 10 new groups of 18 head each are formed; they are kept that way throughout the entire period of maintenance at the complex. On expiration of the fattening period they are turned over simultaneously. This ensures regularity in deliveries of cattle to the processing industry. At 13-day intervals, the meat combine gets due batches of well-fed, heavy-weighting animals with a total weight of 150 tons.

Precision of operation of the meat conveyor, completion of all technological operations connected with growing and fattening determine stability of results. Daily weight increase amounts to 10 tons. By the last, 392nd, day of fattening, the animals have attained an average weight of 427 kilograms.

The length of maintenance of animals at the complex is determined by the special features of their biology: during this period bull-calves best "pay back" for their feed. On some farms, animals are taken off fattening at two or more years of age. Their weight by this time reaches 300-350 kilograms. At the Dzhetygenskiy

Complex, however, they are able to complete two cycles in this time and obtain as a result 800 kilograms of weight increase from a single livestock animal place (skotomesto).

Intensification of pre-slaughter growing and fattening is directly reflected in economic indicators. Six and a half quintals of fodder units here go into one quintal of weight increase, while labor outlays amount to 3.4 man-hours. The production cost of one quintal of beef is 119 rubles. Compared even to the best complexes and fattening areas of other farms, this is two-thirds, one-half and even one-third as much.

Full mechanization of labor-intensive processes at the complex have made it possible to create exceptionally favorable conditions of work for the service personnel. The ventilation system ensures complete purification of barns from ammonia gases. The air in them shows little difference from outside air. A constant temperature regime is maintained at work places. Control of all technological processes (transportation of fodder, water supply, removal of manure and the like) is carried out from a central control desk. The operator can practically exercise control from his location. This makes it possible for a single operator to service up to 180 calves and up to 720 bull-calves. Labor productivity compared to ordinary farms is 4.5 and 10-fold, respectively, higher.

Aside from operators, service personnel are composed of such highly qualified specialists as fitters-adjusters and fitter-electricians. They work five days a week according to a sliding schedule, strictly 8 hours a day and (with the exception of duty personnel) only during the day shift. The shift arrives and departs from the complex on buses. During lunch breaks, the workers are provided with hot food at reduced prices.

A guaranteed high wage (200 rubles a month), plant working conditions, provision of housing for workers (this basically consists of three-to-five-room well-appointed cottages) and preschool institutions have provided the opportunity of solving the cadre problem. The basic makeup of the personnel has not changed since the complex went into operation six years ago. Operators N.V. Gavrilova, S. Seitova, R.A. Kalmazhanova, V.V. Dereyeva are achieving high indicators at work. V.A. Obert, the chief of the complex, has turned out to be an outstanding production organizer.

The Dzhetygenskiy Complex can serve as a model for the sector. It has much that is of value and instructive for others. But its reserves are far from completely exhausted; it still has not been able to reach the level prescribed in technology in regard to weight increase. The latter amounts to 933 grams instead of 1,033 grams per day.

"Here for some reason we are encountering a number of difficulties," says the director of the Dzhetygenskiy Meat Sovkhoz Kedly Ibrayevich Ibrayev. "In the course of a year 10,000 calves come here. We buy them according to an agreement from 27 farms in Alma-Atinskaya Oblast. Distance of the hauls varies from 10 to 120 kilometers. And although the young stock is transported in specially equipped vehicles, it is impossible to prevent pulmonary diseases in the animals. A need exists for effective methods of treating pneumonia. The search of scientists for reassuring results has so far not been successful. They attempted to prepare by means of a

homemade method serum from the blood of recovered calves. Its use has yielded good results. But serious research is required to establish the true effectiveness of the serum. But neither the Kazakh Institute of Veterinary Science nor the Alma-Ata Zooveterinary Institute responds to our requests of including in the plan of work study of the therapeutic properties of the serum. There are no recommendations either from them or other on dealing with the disease. We would have also been grateful to the scientists had they proposed a more effective method of maintaining assigned temperature regimes in the animal-husbandry buildings during the hot and cold periods of the year."

There are in fact many problems arising in the course of the operation of the complex. Take, for example, care of equipment. A complex system of communications and units sets into operation 390 electric motors. Their servicing requires qualified specialists. They are to be found in the Talgarskiy Rayon Association of the State Committee for Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture. But its directors do not wish to assume additional concerns. Supplying the complex with needed machinery and spare parts depends as far as the association is concerned on how the customer selects unneeded equipment lying in the warehouses.

Moreover, the prescription for feed used at the complex requires strict dosage of all components. But mixed-feed enterprises of the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Procurement do not always adhere to prescribed norms; frequently, some components are replaced by others that are less effective. This sharply reduces the quality of the feed and leads to their overexpenditure and to a higher price for the end product. But there is not enough even of such feed and a portion of it has to be brought in from afar.

According to the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On the Development of Animal Husbandry on an Industrial Basis," it is determined that state complexes of 10,000 and more head are to be supplied with feed from state resources. For this reason, together with the construction of the Dzhetyganskii Complex, there was planned at the same time the building of a mixed-feed plant at Bayserka Station nearby. But the matter went no further beyond the selection of a site for the planned facility. It is possible that eight years ago it made sense to wait with the construction. But a lot has changed since then. Many farms located in the neighborhood--Chingel'dinskoye Interrayon Special Farm Association, Zhamalyk Sheep Complex, Iliyskiy Complex for Pig Fattening, Alma-Ata Fattening Sovkhoz and others--were converted to an industrial basis of cattle fattening. In other words, there arose a developed zone of industrial animal husbandry, and the Kazakh SSR Gosplan obviously must find ways of supplying the farms of this zone with full-ration feed from local production.

It should be noted that animal-husbandry complexes are by no means spoiled by the attention of agencies who are responsible for their care. Reference has already been made to the defects of material-technical supply and provision of the complex with feed. Here is a seeming trifle. Dzhetyganskii Complex, which annually receives tens of thousands of tons of cargoes, to this very moment does not have an unloading platform at Bayserka Station.

But let us return to the long-range problems of development of industrial animal husbandry in the capital suburban zone. As was already noted, Dzhetyganskii Complex accepts bull calves from the neighboring dairy farms. But that is not all. Heifers,

as before, remain at the farms, and there they have to use part of the milk for feeding of the young stock. This reduces the marketability of the product. Specialists believe that the time is right for the construction of another complex—for the growing of heifers. Such a complex could, after receiving them, keep the young stock until the first increase and then, after passing them through a control yard return them to the farm.

Finally, the complex turns over cattle to the meat combine after keeping them for a day without food. In the case where the cattle are delivered on their own power for slaughter, the following requirement is justified: it is necessary to wait until products of lactic acid, which lower the quality of the meat, break down. But the complex delivers cattle for slaughter on vehicles. There is no technological need therefore to wait for a day. In addition, it is harmful. Animals, after being kept in box cars, on entering the general herd, experience strong stress states. In the sum, the loss of weight over the course of a year amounts to about 150 tons.

The October (1980) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee emphasized the necessity of improving the food supply of the population. Increasing production of meat constitutes an important constituent part of this problem.

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DEVELOPMENT IN YAK RAISING IN SOVIET UNION

Yaks in Caucasus

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 16 Mar 80 p 4

[Article by S. Lorsanukayev, SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' foreign correspondent, Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR: "Yaks Beyond the Clouds: Alongside of a Researcher"]

[Text] We were riding toward the foot of the Main Caucasian Range, to the place where the yaks that were brought in from the distant Pamir, Sayans, and the Alta, live. The trip was going to be a long one. No less than a hundred kilometers of a difficult mountain road. The chairman of the Sovetskaya Rossiya Kolkhoz, Groznenskiy Rayon, Sultan Edesovich Dyshniyev, was hurrying -- the weather in the mountains was capricious and it could change at any moment.

Beyond the village of Yarysh-Mardy, the twisting road traveled above a precipice. Far below us we could see the snakelike twisting of the silvery ribbon that was the Chanty-Argun River. The mountain villages of Sovetskoye, Shtumkale, and Tazbichi flashed by. The road kept going higher and higher. And then, in the distance, we could already see the white cap of the Main Caucasian Range.

Outside our vehicle we could hear the dull whistling of the wind. Sultan Edesovich continued the discussion of yaks which had been begun as far back as Groznyy -- those yaks which are the semiwild relatives of cattle. The chairman himself is an ardent proponent of having the raising of these unpretentious animals spread throughout the Caucasus.

"Judge for yourself," he says. "Yaks can graze year round and do not need to be brought into any buildings. The only fodders that have to be laid in for them are those that might be required in the event of a snowy winter. The only mineral additive that they need in their diet is salt."

Eight years ago the Sovetskaya Rossiya Kolkhoz, on its own initiative, brought in 20 yaks from Kirghiz SSR to the Buti-lam and Khimoy-lam tracts. They became acclimated and have had offspring. That is how the beginning of yak-raising in the Caucasus was laid. Good advice was provided by the scientific associates of the Chechen-Ingush Scientific-Research Veterinary Station, A. Mochalovskiy, B. Dikayev, and T. Uzuyev, who proved that the acclimatization of yaks is possible

in the Northern Caucasus. After all, one finds here considerable areas of alpine pastures with a rich stand of grass, on which, by virtue of the severe climate with changeable weather, the mountaineers pasture their cattle for only one and a half or two months a year. And some of the pastures that are located very close to the zone of perpetual snow are not used at all. . .

The area in which yaks can live -- a rather extensive territory in the mountainous regions of the Asian continent -- is, in many respects, similar to the Caucasus. According to computations made by scientists, the alpine pastures in Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR can support, with no detriment to other species of animals, no less than 10,000 yaks.

We ascend to one of the spurs of the Main Caucasian Range. The elevation is 3000 meters above sea level. Snow is on the ground on the Buti-lam tract. A ground wind is raging. Then we see the yaks! We try not to frighten the cautious animals by our appearance, but keep observing them carefully. The yaks waddle around, cautiously looking around on all sides.

We meet zootechnician A. Salamov. He has been here since the first day that the distant-pasture animal husbandry was organized. The collective he has under him is small -- only four people. There are 387 yaks to be maintained. The zootechnician discusses the productive properties of the newcomers in the mountains. The cows produce one calf a year. Calving occurs in the spring, from March through May. The new-born yaks withstand the low temperatures easily. Within 5 to 10 minutes after birth, the calf stands on his feet, and within two hours is able to run alongside his mother.

During the lactation period, yaks provide 400-700 kilograms of nutritious milk with a fat content of 7-8 percent. The milk is distinguished by its high protein content. It also has curative properties. But the basic purpose of the yak-raising is the production of inexpensive meat. During the spring, the yaks are shorn and have their hair clipped.

The yaks have become well acclimated at the Sovetskaya Rossiya Kolkhoz. The increase in the herd size is developing normally and the new animals are having healthy offspring. During a one-year period the kolkhoz has obtained 72 calves from 110 females. The mountaineers have also learned how to combat the diseases to which these hardy animals are susceptible.

Yaks in Ferganskaya Oblast

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 18 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] Animal husbandrymen in Ferganskaya Oblast are developing a new branch -- yak-raising. In the mountains at an elevation of 3000 meters they have created farms for maintaining 1,200 of the unpretentious animals whose meat and milk are considerably cheaper than ordinary meat and milk.

Yak Raiser Reports

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 23 Nov 80 p 2

[Article by A. Salamov, zootechnician at the Sovetskaya Rossiya Kolkhoz: "Yaks in the Caucasus"]

[Text] Groznyy, 22 [Nov 80]. (Mailed to SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN'.) The Sovetskaya Rossiya Kolkhoz, Groznenskiy Rayon, Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR, in 1971 was the first in the Caucasus to bring in from the Pamirs a herd of yaks for the purpose of acclimatizing them on the alpine pastures. The unpretentious animals became well acclimated to the new conditions. At the present time there are more than 400 in the kolkhoz. Recently the kolkhoz sold more than 200 yaks, including 57 to Northern Osetia, and 40 more to a neighboring farm.

The new branch of animal husbandry has become well established on the kolkhoz and is providing a good income.

Assimilation of Yaks

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 29 Nov 80 p 2

[Article: "Yaks Assimilate the Caucasus"]

[Text] Ordzhonikidze, 28 [Nov 80]. (TASS.) A new and promising branch of animal husbandry -- the raising of yaks -- has appeared on the farms of Northern Osetia.

These valuable animals were brought in from the Pamirs by the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Kirovskiy, Pravoberezhnyy and Ardonkiy Rayons. The herds of yaks remain year round on the alpine pastures. They have become well acclimated and have produced the first young.

In the opinion of specialists who have observed the yaks, the natural and climatic conditions in Northern Osetia suit the newcomers very well. The unpretentious and hardy animals are maintained without any cover, feeding basically on the fodder that is on the ground. They gain weight rapidly. The productivity of the females has reached 350 kilograms of milk a year, with a fat content of 6-7 percent.

At the present time the farms in the mountain rayons have purchased in Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR and in Kabardino-Balkarskaya ASSR a few dozen more acclimated Pamir yaks for the purpose of creating specialized farms intended for meat production.

Yaks in Tajik SSR

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 7, Feb 80 p 18

[Article by S. Mubashirov, Chief zootechnician, Administration of Agriculture, Murgabskiy Rayon, Tajik SSR: "On Mountain Pastures"]

[Text] The animal husbandrymen in Murgabskiy Rayon, Tajik SSR, work under difficult

climatic conditions in the Eastern Pamirs. The pastures here are located at an elevation of 3,600-4000 meters above sea level. But even under these conditions they are achieving rather good results. The local conditions have predetermined the trend taken by animal husbandrymen. The farms in the rayon have, for the most part, specialized in the raising and fattening of yaks -- those hardy and unpretentious animals.

The people working in the rayon are truly experts in their field. Every year they have been increasing the production of yak meat. The average weight of the animals sold to the state exceeds 200 kilograms. The advanced people in the competition achieve even better results. For example, senior herdsmen, Hero of Socialist Labor B. Muratbekov and G. Goshonberdyyev, at the Bulun-Kul' Sovkhoz; B. Shaimbayev and A. Tashov, at the Sovkhoz imeni Kirov; and T. Abdylpayev and P. Dasmatov, at the Kyzyl-Chekarachi Sovkhoz sell yaks to the state which have an average live weight of 220-250 kilograms, and obtain 95-100 calves from each 100 females.

The animal husbandrymen in our rayon have coped successfully with last year's plans and pledges and have set themselves even higher goals for the current year. And there is complete justification for believing that they will cope with their pledges, since the people who work on the farms are industrious, knowledgeable ones.

Yak Blood-Stock Development

Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 3 Aug 79 p 1

[Article by TadzhikTa (Tajik Telegraph Agency) correspondent: "Blood-Stock Farm in the Pamirs"]

(Text) Khorog. A zonal state blood-stock farm has been created in the Pamirs.

"Our organization's main task," its director, K. Kirgizov, says, "is to improve the blood lines and to increase the productivity of livestock for alpine farms. Taking into consideration the peculiarities of the natural and climatic conditions, we have 'divided' the oblast into two animal-husbandry zones. In the Western Pamirs, where the complex mountainous relief predominates, a large amount of attention will be devoted to raising fine-fleeced sheep of the Gorno-Darvaz breed, and also wooly and local down-haired goats. Livestock of the Schwyz breed will be developed in the more favorable rayons.

Yak-raising will continue to be the leading branch of animal husbandry in the Eastern Pamirs.

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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SUCCESSES, PROBLEMS OF POTATO PRODUCTION IN KAZAKH SSR REVIEWED

Alma-Ata SEL'SKOYE KHOZYAZSTVO KAZAKHSTANA in Russian No 11, Nov 80 pp 17-18

[Article by S. Kalinich, chief of the Main Administration of Farming of the Ministry of Agriculture for the Kazakh SSR: "Potato Production: Successes, Problems"]

[Text] The experience of the Karaganda potato growers to be made available to all! What is the cause of low yields on other farms? Concentration and specialization in potato production -- the basic principle. Attention to the crop rotation plans. Efficient use of irrigated lands and fertilization. Labor-intensive processes to be performed by machines. Concern and attention for seed production for potatoes.

During the years of the Tenth Five-Year Plan, a great amount of work was carried out in our republic in connection with the development of potato production operations: the material-technical base became stronger, further concentration of marketable plantings at specialized farms was carried out, the culture of farming was raised and increases were recorded in the production and procurements of potatoes. On the average, during the 1976-1979 period the potato planting areas at sovkhozes and kolkhozes increased by 13 percent, cropping power -- by 17, gross yield -- by 33 and the sale of potatoes to the state -- by 54 percent. Especially high indicators were achieved by the potato growing farms in Karagandinskaya, Severo-Kazakhstanskaya and Kokchetavskaya oblasts; they accounted for 39 percent of the republic's overall volume of potato procurements and 43 percent of the increase in this volume.

All of this was the result of improvements being realized in the organization of production and in the culture employed in the growing of potatoes. For example, in Karagandinskaya Oblast marketable plantings are concentrated at 17 sovkhozes, irrigated land has been made available, the required number of storehouses have been built, measures have been undertaken aimed at improving seed production work and converting over to extensive high quality plantings and the training of cadres of potato growers has been organized in the proper manner.

Success is at hand. Each year an average of 149 quintals of potatoes per hectare is being obtained here from almost 7,000 hectares, the gross yield is 97,000 tons, 60,000 tons of potatoes are being sold to the state and the marketability has been raised to 61 percent. During 4 years of the five-year plan, the overall volume of procurements was fulfilled by 137 percent.

Nevertheless, despite the definite successes already achieved, the production level for potatoes still does not satisfy the modern requirements. In order to supply the population with this farming product, the republic must import up to 100,000 tons from other regions of the country. And although Kazakhstan on the whole fulfilled its plan for 4 years of the five-year plan, seven oblasts undersupplied the state during this period by 134,000 tons, or by 44,000 tons annually. Thus the kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Kustanayskaya Oblast fulfilled their overall volume of potato procurements by only 62 percent, Taldy-Kurganskaya -- by 69, Kzyl-Ordinskaya -- by 75, Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya -- by 81, Ural'skaya -- by 82 percent. Moreover, in Dzhambulskaya, Gur'yevskaya and Kzyl-Ordinskaya oblasts the production of potatoes even decreased during the past few years compared to the Ninth Five-Year Plan.

It bears mentioning that insufficient use is being made of the favorable conditions that are available for increasing potato production on mountainous and foothill farms in Chimkentskaya, Dzhambulskaya and Taldy-Kurganskaya oblasts.

Owing to a low culture of farming, many sovkhozes and kolkhozes and entire regions are obtaining poor yields from year to year. As a result, for example, 51 rayons and 227 farms failed to fulfill their procurement plans last year. Not one rayon in Ural'skaya, Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya or Kustanayskaya oblasts succeeded in coping with its tasks. From year to year, the specialized farms in Gvardeyskiy Rayon of Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast, which must supply potatoes for the population of Alma-Ata, are failing to carry out their production and procurement plans. During 1979 alone, the rayon undersupplied the state by 5,800 tons.

The conclusion can be drawn that serious shortcomings exist in the potato production operations and that a great amount of organizational work is required in order to raise sharply the operational level of this branch and realize considerable increases in both production and procurements.

What must be done?

Analysis has shown that one decisive factor for increasing production and raising the quality of the potatoes is that of further concentration of its marketable plantings at specialized farms and strengthening their material and technical base. For it is at precisely such sovkhozes and kolkhozes that a progressive technology and complex mechanization in the growing of this crop can be introduced into operations on a more extensive scale and solutions can be found for those problems associated with the training of potato growers and raising the culture of farming and cropping power.

After accomplishing this, the following enterprises became large suppliers of potatoes (supplying 500 or more tons to the state annually): the Talgarskiy and imeni Abay sovkhozes in Alma-Atinskaya Oblast, the Ishimskiy, Kazakhstan and Mirnyy sovkhozes in Karagandinskaya Oblast, Kotyrkol'skiy Sovkhoz in Kokchetavskaya Oblast, Zarechnyy Sovkhoz in Tselinogradskaya Oblast, Sovkhoz imeni Lenin in Dzhambulskaya Oblast, Chernoyarskiy Association in Pavlodarskaya Oblast and a number of others. It should be added that a considerable amount of work has been carried out in Severo-Kazakhstanskaya, Pavlodarskaya, Tselinogradskaya, Kokchetavskaya and a number of other oblasts in connection with the concentration and specialization of potato production operations.

Unfortunately, this work has slowed down in recent years and in some areas it has come to a complete halt. In some oblasts, potato production plans for many forms have been reduced, requiring only 10-30 hectares of plantings in order to be fulfilled. In Aktyubinskaya Oblast there are 23 such sovkhozes and kolkhozes, Ural'skaya Oblast -- 11, Turgayskaya Oblast -- 9, Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast -- 27 and in Kzyl-Ordinskaya Oblast -- 27. With such a dispersion of plantings, it is practically impossible to ensure the creation of the required material and technical base, organize seed production operations, train cadres of personnel or solve other problems. And here is the lamentable result. In 1979, 227 out of 525 sovkhozes and kolkhozes failed to fulfill their plans for potato procurements. These were mainly farms where the potatoes had been planted on small areas.

Such a situation cannot be tolerated. Experience has shown that the optimum potato field at a specialized sovkhoz or kolkhoz must be 600-800 hectares in size. This must be taken into account in the carrying out of practical work. Certainly, we must not exclude the production of marketable potatoes at individual large-scale multi-branch farms, where there are specialized branches or brigades having planting areas of 100-200 and more hectares.

Permit me now to add a few words concerning agricultural practices. Scientific studies and the experience of leading farms have proven that a complex of organizational and agrotechnical measures aimed at raising cropping power, increasing production and raising the quality of the potatoes is more effective when sound crop rotation plans are employed. This work has been organized very well in Severo-Kazakhstanskaya, Kokchetavskaya, Tselinogradskaya and a number of other oblasts. However it is proceeding very slowly in Alma-Atinskaya, Dzhezkazganskaya, Semipalatinskaya, Kzyl-Ordinskaya, Dzhambulskaya and Ural'skaya oblasts. The planting of potatoes in three and four-field crop rotation plans, with a field of clean fallow, is especially effective in the northern oblasts. When cultivated in a timely and correct manner, it makes it possible to accumulate large supplies of moisture. A good top dressing of organic fertilizers serves to improve the physical-mechanical structure of the soil and this is also an important factor with regard to raising cropping power.

This has been borne out by practical experience. Good use is being made of fallow land at the Kolkhoz imeni XXII Party Congress in Severo-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast. Permanent teams have been created here for carrying out an entire complex of agrotechnical operations in a timely and high quality manner; the crops are being planted on fallow that has been cultivated well and fertilized with farmyard manure and using only high quality seed. As a result, the plan for delivering potatoes is being over-fulfilled annually. Last year, 156 quintals of tubers were obtained per hectare, 1,864 tons were sold to the state or 164 percent of the plan and 182,000 rubles worth of profit was obtained from the sale of potatoes.

Here is still another example. The Lesnoy Sovkhoz in this same oblast, which grows potatoes on an area of 670 hectares, operates under almost identical conditions. However, no concern is displayed here for the timely and high quality cultivation of fallow, no responsibility has been assigned for the plantings and the agrotechnical rules are not being followed. As a result, the yields at the Lesnoy Sovkhoz are low. Last year, only 83 quintals of potatoes were obtained per hectare and the procurement plan was fulfilled by only 61 percent.

Conditions exist in some oblasts for expanding the irrigated plantings of potatoes. However, sufficient use is not being made of these reserves. Very few potatoes are being grown under irrigation conditions in Severo-Kazakhstanskaya, Kokchetavskaya, Semipalatinskaya or Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya oblasts.

Nor is concern being displayed in all areas for the efficient use of the irrigated lands. Whereas throughout the republic on the whole 109 quintals of potatoes (also a low figure) are being obtained from each irrigated hectare, on farms in Kzyl-Ordinskaya Oblast -- only 42, Aktyubinskaya Oblast -- 67, Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast -- 72, Turgayskaya Oblast -- 75 and in Ural'skaya Oblast -- 76 quintals.

The irrigated lands on potato growing farms in Gvardeyskiy Rayon in Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast are being employed in an extremely unsatisfactory manner. For example, last year the Razvel'nenskiy Sovkhoz obtained only 50 quintals of tubers per hectare under irrigation conditions and fulfilled its procurement plan by only 37 percent. The cause -- the absence of basic order in the potato production operations, a lack of high quality plantings here, considerable losses occurring during harvest operations, disruptions in the irrigation regime, irrational use of water and unproductive operation of the equipment.

Correctly organized mineral nourishment for the land also plays a very important role with regard to the formation of a crop. For it was the use of well balanced fertilizers and their skillful application that enabled the imeni XIX S"yezda KPSS, Ishimskiy and Leninskiy sovkhozes in Karagandinskaya Oblast to obtain from 160-200 quintals of potatoes per hectare last year.

However, proper attention is not being given to this problem in all areas. On many farms, fertilizers are generally not being applied in behalf of this crop. For example, mineral supplements are being applied to only 30-60 percent of the plantings in Aktyubinskaya, Gur'yevskaya, Dzhezkazganskaya, Kzyl-Ordinskaya, Turgayskaya and Ural'skaya oblasts. On a number of farms in Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya, Semipalatinskaya, Turgayskaya and other oblasts the fertilizers are not being applied in a systematic manner, the schedules and technology for applying them are not being followed and certainly this tends to lower their effectiveness markedly.

Last year, for example, no organic fertilizer whatsoever was applied in behalf of this crop at the Rassvet, Tasbulak or imeni XX Parts"ezda kolkhozes in Semipalatinskaya Oblast, at the Vozvyshenskiy and imeni XXV S"yezda KPSS sovkhozes in Kokchetavskaya Oblast or at the Podlesnyy, Andreyevskiy and Petrovskiy sovkhozes in Tselinogradskaya Oblast.

In order to establish order more rapidly in the use of toxic chemicals, fertilizers and other chemical agents, stations for the use of chemical processes should be organized at each specialized farm. Such stations must carry out all work associated with the accounting, storage, transportation and application of the fertilizers. The operational experience of such stations that have already been organized in the republic serves to underscore their high effectiveness.

A great amount of work remains to be carried out in connection with the introduction of complex mechanization in the growing of potatoes, especially for harvesting and storing the crop. At the present time, the level of mechanization in the republic

has been raised to 90 percent for planting work, up to 30 percent for loading and unloading operations and up to 60 percent for harvesting work. This problem has been solved on a complex basis at the Chernobysrakhi Association in Pavlodarskaya Oblast. Here the sowing and plant tending work has been completely mechanized, the combine harvesting method is being employed extensively, sorting points are in operation, container storage for seed has been organized and the delivery to and removal of potatoes from potato storage units have been mechanized.

On the whole, however, complex mechanization still constitutes a "bottleneck" in potato production operations. It is for this reason that delays are occurring in carrying out the harvest schedules and large crop losses are being tolerated -- often reaching 2-3 tons per hectare.

Further improvements in the effectiveness of potato production operations will be greatly dependent upon seed production work and upon the quality of the planting stock. A certain amount of work has been carried out throughout the republic directed towards solving this problem. For example, during 4 years of the Tenth Five-Year Plan, the production of elite seed increased by a factor of 1.5. Primary seed production was organized rather well at the Karagandinskaya Oblast Experimental Station. On the average, during the 1976-1979 period, it sold 906 tons of elite tubers to the sovkhozes, or 112 percent of the figure called for in the established plan. The operational experience of the Karabelykskaya Experimental Station in Kustanayskaya Oblast also merits attention. It is fulfilling its elite tuber production task in a stable manner and it is providing high quality potatoes based upon a non-virus technology for growing them. The Kustanayskaya, Pavlodarskaya and Semipalatinskaya experimental stations and the Podlesnyy Seed Production Sovkhoz in Kokchetavskaya Oblast have also fulfilled their tasks for the sale of elite seed.

However, notwithstanding certain positive results, the situation with regard to potato seed production continues to leave a great deal to be desired in a majority of oblasts, just as in the past. An alarming situation has prevailed for several years running in connection with the production of elite seed at the Vostochno-Kazakhstan, Turgay and Kokchetay experimental stations and at the Kalininskaya Sovkhoz in Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast. Improvements must also be carried out in primary seed production at the Pervomaysk Experimental Farm of the Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of Potato and Vegetable Management and at the Ural'sk and Severo-Kazakhstan experimental stations. Indeed, such shortcomings lead to a disruption in planned strain renovation and strain changing and they restrain the propagation of new regionalized varieties.

This is explained by the fact that the republic's farms have still not converted over to extensive high quality plantings of potatoes. During 4 years of the five-year plan they increased by only 10 percent and last year amounted to 30 percent. Moreover, in Alma-Atinskaya, Dzhambulskaya, Kustanayskaya, Pavlodarskaya and Ural'skaya oblasts, instead of an expansion in such plantings a reduction of from 20 to 30 percent took place. The situation is even worse in Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast, where the proportion of such plantings does not exceed 7 percent.

Potato production is the only branch in the republic in which the problem of supplying internally produced seed has still not been completely solved. Each year a large number of farms procure their seed from the population or they import it

from other republics. This involves considerable expenditures and thus production costs increase and the economic indicators for production are lowered. Thus, during 6 years of the five-year plan, 218,000 tons of potato seed, or 21 percent of the requirements, were procured or imported. This required expenditures amounting to approximately 60 million rubles.

On a number of farms, proper attention is not being given to the storing of the potatoes and, as a result, up to 18-20 percent of the crop is being lost. All of these shortcomings can be corrected. In seed production, for example, we are of the opinion that they can be eliminated by releasing the elite seed production farms from having to produce and procure marketable potatoes. This should be done now, while examining the plans for the 11th Five-Year Plan.

In solving the problems concerned with raising the efficiency of potato production operations, serious attention must be given to increasing the production of early potatoes. The growing of such potatoes is economically profitable, with the additional expenses involved being repaid with interest.

Despite this fact however, many oblasts are still not fulfilling their tasks for the cultivation and procurements of this crop. Thus, in 1979, only 14,000 tons of early potatoes, or 46 percent of the plan, were sold. Almost no early potatoes are being grown on the farms in Dzhambulskaya, Kzyl-Ordinskaya, Taldy-Kurganskaya and Kokchetavskaya oblasts and only small quantities are being produced in Alma-Atinskaya, Semipalatinskaya and Chimkentskaya oblasts.

The problems concerned with improving the management of potato production operations were examined during a republic seminar for potato growers held in Karaganda. Those who participated in the seminar acquainted themselves in detail with the practical experience of leading potato growing farms in Karagandinskaya Oblast. The utilization of this experience in other rayons and oblasts of the republic will make it possible to raise the efficiency and profitability of potato production and to carry out the task assigned to the republic's potato growers -- to satisfy completely the population's requirements for this food product by means of internal production.

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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

POTATO CROP DEVELOPMENT IN BELORUSSIA EXAMINED

Moscow ZAKUPKI SEL'SKOKHOZYAYSTVENNYKH PRODUKTOV in Russian No 11, Nov 80 pp 5-8

[Article by V. Zhdanovich, First deputy Minister of procurements for Belorussian SSR: "Second Grain of Belorussia"]

[Excerpts] Belorussia -- a most important economic region of the country's national economic complex, having a developed industry, light and food industry and agriculture. Occupying less than 1 percent of the territory and having less than 4 percent of the population of the Soviet Union, Belorussia provides the state resources with 6.6 percent of the livestock and poultry, 6.7 percent of the milk, 16 percent of the potatoes and 25 percent of the flax fiber, of the corresponding procurement volumes for the country.

During the 1976-1979 period, the republic sold to the state 737,000 tons of potatoes, 98,800 tons of sugar beets, 578,000 tons of milk, 672 million eggs and 327 tons of wool in excess of the overall procurement volumes. Improvements were also realized in the quality of the products sold.

Each year the republic makes a greater contribution to the all-union fund in the form of agricultural products. Its proportions, compared to the country's overall procurement volumes, were 11 percent for meat and meat products and one third for potatoes. For the seventh year in a row now, the Belorussian SSR has been declared the winner in the all-union socialist competition and for successes achieved in developing the national economy it has been awarded the challenge Red Banner of the CC CPSU, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee.

The republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes specialize in the production of milk, meat, flax and potatoes. The potatoes are viewed as a valuable food, technical and forage crop and they are quite properly referred to as the second grain. Potatoes occupy a leading position among the agricultural crops being grown in the republic. It is difficult to imagine a dining table of a resident of Belorussia that does not have a hot, steaming and friable potato.

Our republic can quite properly be referred to as a potato granary: it occupies a leading position in the country in the production of potatoes, annually furnishing 17 percent of the entire gross yield of this product in the USSR. At the present

time, potato production in the republic is passing through a new and qualitative stage in its development -- production specialization and concentration. Compared to 1976 when potatoes were grown by 2,733 kolkhozes and sovkhozes, in 1979 the number of such enterprises had decreased to 2,300.

The organization of specialized farms for the production of potatoes, the concentration of plantings and agroindustrial integration have opened up broad opportunities for converting potato production over to an industrial basis. In addition, they are promoting the introduction of new methods for the mechanized cultivation of this crop, with all processes from planting to harvest operations being carried out by machines. Mechanization is being introduced on an extensive scale into sorting, loading, unloading and storage operations. Greater use is being made of the flow method for harvest operations and of container shipments, which make it possible to mechanize completely the cultivation of potatoes.

As a result of the great work performed by the potato growers and their high expertise, knowledge and observance of the leading agricultural practices at kolkhozes and sovkhozes throughout Belorussia, the cropping power for potatoes during 1979, for the republic as a whole and compared to the average annual indicators for the Ninth Five-Year Plan, increased by 56 quintals per hectare and compared to the Eighth Five-Year Plan -- by almost 90 quintals per hectare, with a simultaneous increase in the gross yields from 13 million tons (1975) to 15.23 million tons (1979).

In 1979, of 2,300 farms throughout the republic engaged in growing this crop, 302 obtained in excess of 250 quintals per hectare; in 1976, there were only 93 such farms.

The fact that potatoes are used in many ways defines the need for cultivating varieties which possess those qualities which meet a particular requirement to the greatest degree. The table varieties must first of all have fine taste qualities, a pleasant aroma and non-darkening flesh. Tubers grown for industrial processing require a high starch content.

It bears mentioning that all of the potato varieties grown in the republic (and all of our plantings are of the high quality type) are mainly of Belorussian selection.

The regionalized varieties of potatoes can be arbitrarily divided into the following groups: more productive during damp years -- Loshitskiy, Belorusskiy Krakhmalisty, Kandidat, Sadko, Lastochka and Komsomolets-20; those which endure drought conditions best -- Razvariety, Zorka; those which produce more uniform yields -- Temp, Ogonek and Belorusskiy ranniy.

It should be noted that as a rule those farms which obtain high potato yields grow not one but rather 3-4 varieties and thus they are able to obtain high and stable yields under any weather conditions. At the present time, the attention of our Belorussian plant breeders is directed towards breeding medium-early and mid-season ripening varieties of the intensive type, varieties which are resistant to diseases, possess good taste qualities and are capable of furnishing adequately high yields under various growing conditions.

The republic's population, by virtue of their gardens and private plots, are making worthy contributions with regard to the state potato procurements. In recent years the population has supplied up to one half million tons of potatoes annually.

In order to increase the production and procurements of potatoes for the populations of cities and industrial centers throughout the republic, raised procurement and retail prices have been approved for the high value varieties (Temp, Kandidat, Razvaristy and so forth). The Belorussian potatoes are being shipped to 11 union republics and also to such large cities as Moscow, Leningrad and also beyond the borders of the country.

Potato procurements within the republic are being carried out by procurement organizations and enterprises of the republic's ministries of trade, food industry and agriculture and also by Belkoopsoyuz [Cooperative Union of the Belorussian SSR] and Belsortsemovoshch. The proportion of each of them, with regard to overall potato procurements throughout the republic during 1979, was: consumer cooperative -- 41 percent, food industry -- 26, trade -- 17, industrial enterprises of the Ministry of Agriculture -- 12, Sortsemovoshch [Republic Office for the Production, Procurement and Sale of High Quality Seed for Vegetables, Melons and Podder Root Crops] -- 4 percent.

The marketability of the potatoes increased considerably. During the past 10 years, it increased by a factor of almost 1.5. The exercising of systematic control over the growing, harvesting, sorting and transporting of the potatoes by the agricultural specialists and workers attached to goszagotinspeksiya is promoting improvements in the quality of the potatoes from year to year. For example, the standard portion of potatoes sold by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in 1979 amounted to 94.8 percent, compared to only 92 percent in 1975. By virtue of this fact alone, during 1979 the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes received more than 2.6 million rubles in addition to their basic payments.

Permit me to cite an example of improved potato quality in one particular rayon. For example, the standard portion for potatoes sold by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Kletskiy Rayon in Minskaya Oblast was as follows: in 1976 -- 84.1 percent, in 1977 -- 91.2, in 1978 -- 94 and in 1979 -- 97 percent. Merely as a result of having improved the quality of the potatoes delivered to the state, the farms received more than 200,000 additional rubles last year.

The organization of the procurement of surplus potatoes from the population in Kletskiy Rayon is rather instructive. Prior to commencing the mass harvesting operations, the raygoszagotinspeksiya, jointly with the raypotrebsoyuz [rayon union of consumers' societies], publishes an appeal in the rayon newspaper to all kolkhoz members, sovkhoz workers and manual and office workers having private plots, regarding the sale of surplus potatoes. With the aid of the rural and settlement soviets of people's deputies, the distribution of the procurement points is determined, the procurement specialists are selected and transport vehicles are made available. The individuals responsible for the procurements are acquainted with the rules for acceptance and payments and also with the state standards. Organizational and mass-explanatory work make it possible to attract up to 7,000 tons of potatoes into the state's resources annually. Such work is also being carried forward successfully in other rayons throughout the republic.

The State Inspectorate for the Ministry of Procurements of the Belorussian SSR exercises constant control over the quality of the potatoes being shipped to the all-union fund. Measures have been developed for improving the quality of the potatoes being procured for shipment beyond the borders of the republic. A decrease has taken place in the number of complaints being received regarding the potato shipments.

The shipping of potatoes to the all-union fund is being carried out for the most part by the rayon procurement offices within the system of consumer cooperation. On the whole, improvements have been realized throughout the system of consumer cooperation in the quality of the potatoes being shipped to the state. For example, 2.4 percent more standard tubers were sold in 1979 than in 1975. Fine results were achieved in 1979 by the following rayon procurement offices: Kalinkovichi and Rechitsa in Gomel'skaya Oblast, Volkovyskaya and Zel'va in Grodzenskaya Oblast, Ivatsevichi in Brestskaya Oblast, where 95 percent of the tubers shipped are of the standard type.

We are most disturbed over the shipping of potatoes over great distances, especially to the Central Asian and Trans-Caucasus republics and to Moldavia. Quite often the railroad supplies freight cars which are unsuitable for the transporting of tubers. They either lack ventilation or are entirely enclosed, intended for the carrying of free-flowing freight. Quite often the freight cars loaded with potatoes are enroute for periods of from 10 to 15 days and even at their final destinations they may lie idle for several days awaiting the arrival of the consignee, as a result of which those potatoes contained in non-ventilated tightly closed freight cars will become overheated and eventually spoil. It is at this point that arguments, complaints and dissatisfaction are registered. It is unfortunate that the consignee thus receives defective goods along with the high quality potatoes. Here the fault rests only with the railroad, which bears no responsibility for the quality of the products being transported. The time has come to restore order in the organization of shipments and to raise the responsibility of the railroad workers for the agricultural products being transported, from the standpoint of both quantity and quality.

The increased volumes of potato procurements throughout the republic are raising the need for constantly improving the system employed in the organization of procurements. A considerable amount of work is being carried out in this regard by the Ministry of Procurements for the Belorussian SSR, which coordinates the activities of the procurement organizations throughout the republic and also the republic's oblast and rayon state inspectorates.

The rayon and oblast executive committees, prompted by the oblast and rayon state procurement inspectorates, approved zones for procurement activities during the 1976-1980 period. The procurement organizations of various departments were assigned farms from which they procure their potatoes.

The tasks assigned by the July (1978) and November (1979) plenums of the CC CPSU for supplying food goods to the populations of cities and industrial centers, including potatoes, and raw materials for the processing enterprises, require a new approach for the distribution of the zones in which the product is grown and also for organizing its deliveries to the consumption areas. Thus, proposals will be

developed and defined more precisely for the Eleventh Five-Year Plan, with regard to the distribution for the procurement zones for raw material, high quality and seed potatoes.

The material and technical base of the procurement organizations, kolkhozes, sovkhozes and processing enterprises also requires improvements and further development. With each passing year, the direct contacts between the procurement organizations and kolkhozes and sovkhozes are being further developed and strengthened. Compared to 1973, when the Ministry of Trade for the Belorussian SSR procured 46,000 tons of potatoes using the field-to-store method, in 1979 the figure was greater by a factor of three. In particular, this method is spreading very rapidly among those farms located in the vicinity of large cities and industrial centers. The stores are being supplied with products by their associated farms based upon contractual agreements and in conformity with schedules in which the shipping times and assortments are specified.

Other procurement methods have entered into use throughout the republic: the potatoes are being accepted directly at the production sites, with the shipments being carried out by vehicles of the procurement organizations or with the product being placed in extended storage on the farms. Of the 1979 crop, the procurement organizations accepted 152,000 tons of potatoes, or approximately 8 percent of the overall volume of procurements directly on the farms and left this amount in storage there. Such a method makes it possible, during a season of mass potato harvesting and procurement operations, to release a considerable number of transport vehicles engaged in transporting the potatoes, to organize rhythmic operations by the processing enterprises throughout the year, to raise the quality of the products being delivered and to make more complete use of the waste products on the farms for feeding to the livestock. When required, the potatoes left in storage are delivered to the processing enterprises.

For their part, the state inspectorates in the various rayons establish constant control over the storing and shipping of the tubers to the processing enterprises in conformity with the approved schedules, and they also check upon the correctness of the account for fulfillment of the procurement plan for potatoes left in storage on the farms.

An orderly system for controlling the procurement-transport process during the harvesting, procurement and transporting of the potatoes has been developed in the republic and is undergoing further improvement with each passing year. One of the most important elements of this system is centralized dispatcher control. It calls for the concentration in one center of the functions associated with the operational management of the work of the suppliers of the products, the procurement-contractors, the receiving points and motor transport equipment used for ensuring the timely and high quality delivery of potatoes to the procurement points and also the productive use of motor vehicles, loading and unloading equipment and railroad transport equipment during the potato procurement period.

Dispatcher control over the procurement-transport process, involving the use of EVM's [electronic computer], is being introduced into operations at receiving points where there are large volumes of potato procurements and suitable conditions from the standpoint of technical equipment. The essence of this system consists of

taking into account the daily, complex, hourly work plan-schedules; this makes it possible to coordinate the activities of enterprises of various departments (procurement, transport, agricultural) and to establish coordinated regimes for their operation in a single process -- loading, transporting and accepting of the potatoes.

In connection with centralized control over the procurement-transport process during the harvesting, procuring and transporting of the potatoes, use is made of such methods of operational management as selective conferences for those participating in the procurement-transport process, based upon the operational results for the past 24 hours, dispatcher operational conferences carried out by the republic staff and oblast and rayon operational groups, which are created on the basis of decisions handed down by the oblast and rayon party and soviet organs for the period during which the potatoes are harvested, procured and shipped to the all-union fund.

The republic's staff and the operational groups of oblasts and rayons include responsible workers from the Council of Ministers for the Belorussian SSR, the ministries of procurements, agriculture, trade and the food industry, Belkoopsoyuz and other ministries and departments. The republic's staff is headed by the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers for the Belorussian SSR and in the oblasts and rayons -- by the chairmen of the oblast or rayon executive committees or their deputies for agriculture. The staffs necessarily include workers from the oblast and rayon state procurement inspectorates.

Individual operational groups are also being created within each ministry, department and organization for controlling the harvesting-procurement-transport process.

A progressive form for interrelationships between those participating in the procurement-transport process is that of a socialist competition among them, with the concluding of a contract calling for labor collaboration.

The state inspectorates are devoting a great amount of attention to controlling the preparation of the material and technical base for procurements. In the oblasts and rayons they are participating actively in carrying out inspections on the readiness of the material and technical base of the procurement organizations of all ministries and departments engaged in procuring potatoes. The inspections are completed with documents being drawn up indicating the shortcomings and the schedules for correcting them. Two months prior to the commencement of the mass harvesting of potatoes in the republic an announcement is made concerning a competitive inspection for the best preparation of the material and technical base. The inspection is carried out by competition committees.

Prior to the commencement of the mass potato procurement operations, in July or August and in all of the oblast and rayon state procurement inspectorates, seminar-conferences are always held for the leaders and specialists of procurement organizations, kolkhozes and sovkhozes on measures for improving the organization of potato procurements, for observing the requirements set forth in the State Standards and also on methods for determining and raising the quality of the potatoes being procured.

This year the republic was confronted by extremely unusual weather conditions: a prolonged and cold spring period, frequent rainfall of a torrential nature and a shortage of effective temperatures during the summer period adversely affected the growth and development of all of the agricultural crops, including potatoes.

However, despite these complicated conditions, the agricultural workers countered the caprices of nature with a high level of organizational ability and they launched an extensive socialist competition aimed at making worthy preparations for the 26th CPSU Congress. In addition, they undertook all of the measures required to harvest and save all of the crops grown in an organized manner and to satisfy, to the maximum possible degree, the requirements of the population and processing industry for agricultural products and raw materials.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

DEVELOPMENT OF SUBSIDIARY FARMS IN ZONE OF BAYKAL-AMUR TRUNKLINE

Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Oct 80 p 2

[Article by G. Podgayev, chairman of Khabarovskiy Kray Executive Committee: "By Means of Local Resources"]

[Text] Khabarovskiy Kray is a large industrial area in the far east region. Steel and rolled metal, machine tools and technological equipment, merchant vessels and diesel engines, agricultural combines and other products produced here are well known both in our country and abroad.

The construction of the Baykal-Amur Trunkline is accelerating the development of new territories and creating conditions for the more complete development of all branches of the national economy.

All of these factors serve to define the socio-economic character of the kray -- 80 percent of the population lives in cities and worker settlements. Moreover, the high rates of economic development have brought about a considerable migration of the population into our rayons. The party, soviet and professional trade union organs must rapidly find a solution for the problem of ensuring that the workers are provided with a more complete supply of food products.

The problem is complicated by the fact that we have very little land that is suitable for agricultural use. It costs no less than 2,000 rubles to develop 1 hectare. Nor is the situation favored by the prevailing weather conditions.

In order to accelerate the development of a reliable agricultural base for this region and in addition to the development of new lands, a requirement exists for increasing the yields being obtained from each active hectare of land. The bureau of the kray party committee and the kray executive committee assigned the following task: to achieve concentration and cooperation in agricultural production in every possible way and to convert it over to an industrial basis.

The Tenth Five-Year Plan can boldly be referred to as the beginning of the industrial revolution in agriculture throughout the kray. During this period, the following facilities were built and placed in operation: seven dairy complexes, the Sergeyevka complex for the raising of 6,000 head of pedigree heifers, a second hog complex for 54,000 hogs at Komsomol'sk-na-Amure and three hothouse combines with an overall area of more than 46 hectares. Construction work is underway on a

number of other large specialized farms. Approximately 349 million rubles were allocated for this purpose. All of this exerted a positive effect with regard to increasing the production of agricultural products. The importing of products from other regions decreased and the population began receiving food products in a more stable manner.

The village of Nekrasovka is located only a short distance from Khabarovsk. The following facilities were built here within a brief interval of time: the buildings of a combine for fattening 54,000 hogs annually, a broiler factory for 10.5 million chicks and a poultry factory capable of producing 192 million eggs annually. Construction work is nearing completion on the largest complex in the Far East for the raising and fattening of 10,000 young bulls annually.

It is important to point out that in addition to production construction work, housing construction has also been carried out: a well organized settlement has been built containing all of the necessary cultural-domestic facilities -- two schools and four childrens' combines for 900 individuals. The residents have private plots and the buildings of a subsidiary farm.

The Nekrasovka experience reveals how it is possible to use each ruble of capital investment in an efficient and highly effective manner. Here almost all of the agricultural enterprises began furnishing products prior to the completion of construction. We are employing the experience accumulated in the construction of new installations.

The party, soviet and professional trade union organizations are striving to create an atmosphere within the collectives which will serve to attach priority importance to those problems concerned with improving the efficiency of livestock husbandry operations. The selfless work performed by the agricultural workers and supporting organizations has produced perceptible results. At the present time, 54 percent of the meat is already being produced in the complexes.

Sovkhoz-kolkhoz production in the kray is on the rise. But many reserves still exist for creating a highly productive base. Thus, in addition to creating large complexes, we are also striving to develop subsidiary farms of industrial enterprises.

A plan has been approved within the kray for creating such farms: the plans call for the creation of 140 non-commodity farms and subsidiary farms -- more than one half have already been built. Many plants and organizations have subsidiary farms which are proving to be of great assistance in providing the population with products. Their proportion in the production of meat, milk and vegetables is constantly increasing. Last year, they furnished 10 percent of the meat for public catering, almost the same quantity of milk and one fifth of the potatoes and vegetables.

Many plant shops for livestock husbandry became multi-branch in nature: at the aviation plant imeni Yu. A. Gagarin and the Amurstal' Plant, in the Department of Workers' Supply for the Urgal'skugol' Administration and at a number of enterprises in Sovetsko-Gavanskiy and Okhotskiy rayons. The kray's lumberjacks established a strong subsidiary base.

The kray party committee, the kray executive committee and the kray council of trade unions are concerned with subsidiary farm problems on a daily basis. Based upon

leading experience accumulated in the kray, methods have been defined for creating farms in conformity with the conditions found in each rayon and especially in those areas where there is a high concentration of industrial production. In the interest of accelerating the construction work and raising its efficiency, the proposal was made to cooperate in the use of the resources of small enterprises and to make efficient use of food remnants obtained from the population as livestock feed. This fine work was initiated by the Amurlitmash Plant. And here is the result: last year, the 76 newly created non-commodity hog farms provided the workers with approximately 900 tons of meat. Moreover, fine weight increases were obtained mainly on the basis of food remnants.

Many difficulties and complexities are involved in solving all of these problems. We have branch and enterprise leaders who merely do nothing more than speak in behalf of creating subsidiary farms. An especially difficult situation has arisen in connection with carrying out the tasks for organizing farms at the construction organizations of Khabarovskkraystroy. For failing to carry out this task, serious warnings were issued to the leaders of the Khabarovsk Branch of DVZhD (Far East Railroad), the Sredne-Amgun'skiy Lumber Industry Farm, an electrical engineering plant, the Dal'shevyprom Association and some others.

We are especially disturbed regarding the creation of subsidiary farms in the zone of the eastern sector of the Baykal-Amur Trunkline. Recently the last kilometer of railroad passing across the territory of Khabarovsk Kray was laid here. The time is not far off when intensive freight movements will commence between Urgala and the port of Vanino. At the present time, dozens of collectives of builders, transport workers, researchers and geologists are already living and working here. However, the program for the agricultural development of BAM (Baykal-Amur Trunkline) is being solved in an extremely slow manner and the USSR Ministry of Railroads in particular is displaying no initiative in this regard.

During the next few years, we must build 65 farms and create a reliable feed base for them. There is one method for accomplishing this: the uprooting, clearing, draining and irrigation of areas and the building of roads. This work is being carried out in the kray by organizations of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources. Unfortunately however, their work is limited only to sovkhozes and kolkhozes. Under our conditions, this work should ideally be carried out on the subsidiary farms of large industrial enterprises.

A need exists for ensuring that the subsidiary farms are supplied with all of the required items of agricultural equipment and spare parts -- the funds being allocated to the kray today preclude the possibility of satisfying even their minimal requirements.

The task of ensuring that the population is supplied with diverse types of products is a national one. We are convinced that in order to achieve this goal full use must be made of all available reserves and opportunities. Indeed, the complexes and farms which we are building will serve the residents of our kray. And they are sparing no effort or energy as they transform it on the basis of their selfless labor.

IMPROVEMENT IN PRICE STRUCTURE, ECONOMY OF GRAIN PRODUCTION CALLED FOR

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 6 Dec 80 p 2

[Article by V. Shefer, deputy chief of Main Planning and Economic Administration of the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Agriculture: "The Price of Bread"]

[Text] The draft of the CPSU Central Committee for the 26th congress "Fundamental Directions of USSR Economic and Social Development for 1981-1985 and for the Period Up to 1990" provides for Kazakhstan reaching an average annual grain production of 28-29 million tons. In this connection, the task is being set of all-out intensification of agriculture. This means, first of all, raising its efficiency. It was referred to in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the October (1980) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. It is necessary to efficiently use the tremendous resources allocated by the state for development of sectors and to strive for full return on investments.

As before, one of the chief tasks of grain farming is to raise the level of profitability of production. Analysis of the sector's indicators indicates that the reserves for boosting the economic efficiency of grain production are still not being fully utilized. For example, in 1976, the profitability level of grain production was 93.6 percent. But in 1978, it had dropped to 61.3, which is almost 10 percent lower than the union indicator. At that time, the consequences of the big drought of 1977 were manifested to a significant degree; because of it some farms in the republic were unable to provide themselves with seeds of their own production.

In 1979, when the biggest harvest ever was produced, the profitability level of grain production went up to 67.8 percent and was comparable to the union indicator. But it was 25.8 percent lower than the level attained at the beginning of the present five-year plan. True, the sum of the profit produced in 1979 was higher. The average annual profit from the grain of the sovkhozes of the Ministry of Agriculture in the 10th Five-Year Plan amounted to 624 million rubles, while in the Ninth Five-Year Plan it equaled 363 million rubles.

In speaking of profitability of grain production, however, the need must not be forgotten of constantly reducing production expenditures. The chief way lies in increasing specialization and strengthening concentration of grain production. The relative share of 543 sovkhozes' commodity grain in the total volume of realized agricultural production was in excess of 60 percent, that of 331 farms--40-60 percent and that of 282--20-40 percent. These data convincingly prove that the economies of Kazakhstan's sovkhozes largely depend on specialized grain production.

On farms where the level of specialization exceeds 60 percent, profitability equals 82.3 percent, while where the specialization level of grain production amounts to 20 percent, profitability of the sector is less than one-half of that figure.

A decisive factor in raising the efficiency of grain farming is yield growth. In 1979, the lowest yield (from 2 to 6 quintals per hectare) fell to the lot of 184 sovkhozes. Average grain-crop area per such farm was 6,800 hectares and profitability level was minus 16.2 percent. A yield within the limits of 20 to 48 quintals occurred on 247 sovkhozes, while this indicator for them was on the average 23.4. The profitability level of commodity grain on these farms was plus 81.2 percent. Their production cost was significantly lower than on farms where productivity was lower. In Kustanayskaya Oblast, where about half of the farms during this five-year period exceeded the 20-quintal yield mark, grain production was 7-9 percent below the plan indicator.

Marked successes in strengthening the economics of grain production were achieved by farms of Severo-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast, where yield has been growing from year to year. In the Ninth Five-Year Plan, average annual grain yields here per hectare were 12.2 quintals, during the first four years of the 10th Five-Year Plan—16.2 quintals and in the present year—more than 18 quintals.

For the republic as a whole, the production cost of a quintal of grain, however, has been gradually increasing in recent years and has now reached about 8 rubles versus 3-5 rubles during the Eighth Five-Year Plan. Growth of expenditures per production unit over an extended period can be explained to some degree by the fact that during the Eighth Five-Year Plan 36 percent of the growth of expenditures occurred as the result of changes in wages and 44 percent as the result of a change in the valuation of material resources. During the Ninth Five-Year Plan, these indicators comprised 27 and 58 percent within the total sum of growth of expenditures. Furthermore, expenditures increased as the consequence of a reevaluation of fixed capital and changes in the norms of amortization deductions. In the course of the analyzed period prices also rose for agricultural products, particularly for seed. Production cost of one's own seeds rose significantly. All this directly effected the economics of grain production.

At the same time, many examples are to be found where economically valid measures introduced into production have made it possible to each year achieve high indicators. For example Konstantinovskiy Sovkhoz of Arykbalykskiy Rayon is a consistently profitable farm. It became this way due to a yearly improvement of all production-economic indicators. Its yield is significantly higher than at other farms of the rayon, while labor and resource expenditures per production unit are 17-35 percent lower. As a result, production cost of a quintal of grain in 1979 amounted to 5 rubles 88 kopecks and on the average for the rayon—7 rubles 17 kopecks. The aggregate level of profitability of production at the sovkhoz is 21 percent as opposed to an average of minus 11.2 percent for the rayon.

In 1979, of 1,861 sovkhozes producing commodity grain, its production cost was below 4 rubles only at 22 of the republic's farms. Their yield was on the average 19.1 quintals per hectare. Labor outlays on the production of one quintal of grain at these sovkhozes were 0.43 man-hour. At 422 specialized farms, where the grain area is on the average 14,500 hectares, production cost fluctuated from 5.3 to 6.7 rubles, yield was 15.3 quintals, and labor outlays per quintal of grain were 0.59 man-hour.

Analysis discloses the significant dependence of profitability of grain on its sale price, which to a large extent is determined by the quality of production. At 339 of the republic's sovkhozes, this indicator for commodity grain attained 138.5 percent, at 162--90.2 percent and at 189--69.5 percent. In the first farm group the production cost of a quintal of grain was 5 rubles 48 kopecks, the sale price thanks to a high quality indicator was 13 rubles 11 kopecks; in the third group, expenditures on the production of a quintal of grain were 18.9 percent higher, while the sale price was 15.6 percent lower due to unsatisfactory conditions of the grain.

The republic fulfilled the five-year plan of purchases of strong varieties of wheat as early as 1979. It was said that the highest profitability level of grain was in 1976. This was largely determined by the large quantity of strong varieties of wheat that were turned over. The sovkhozes of seven grain oblasts--Kustanayskaya, Kokchetavskaya, Karagandinskaya, Turganskaya, Severo-Kazakhstan skaya, Tselinogradskaya and Pavlodarskaya--in 1976 turned over 9,565,000 tons of strong varieties of wheat. But in 1979, the farms of these same oblasts sold only 4,433,000 tons of strong varieties of wheat.

As we can see, the republic's farms possess tremendous reserves for boosting production efficiency, only they must be used in an able way.

The republic's graingrowers marked the culminating year of the five-year plan with a big labor victory. They poured a billion poods of grain into the country's granaries. In response to a message of greetings from General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, Kazakhstan's graingrowers are full of resolution to consolidate the attained achievement. The billion poods will become the standard for the republic. But grain production also has to be highly profitable.

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GMO: 1824

IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATION BETWEEN KOLKHOZ, PRIVATE PLOTS STRESSED

Minsk SEL'SKAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Oct 80 p 2

(Article by L. Novitskaya, Odessa: "A Kolkhoz Partner -- the Private Economy," with commentary by A.T. Taranenko, secretary of the Odesskaya Oblast Party Committee)

(Text) Business-like collaboration with the private plots of the rural population enabled the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin in Savralskiy Rayon to become the largest supplier of meat in the Black Sea region. This year it sold more than 800 tons of beef to the state -- almost one and a half times more than the annual plan. This was the highest indicator since the beginning of the five-year plan.

In addition to the intensification of public livestock husbandry, the subsidiary farms are undergoing further development here and their potential is being used to augment the meat resources. The conditions for business-like collaboration have been defined in agreements. When sillocating young bulls or heifers to those desiring them for fattening purposes, the kolkhoz ensures that the animals are provided with coarse and succulent feed and it furnishes zootechnical and veterinary assistance. The operators of such household farms can procure hay from tracts considered to be unsuitable for machine harvesting and, when necessary, they can use the kolkhoz's transport vehicles.

When the cattle are sold to the kolkhoz, a very important role is played by their increases in weight -- it is this factor which determines the payment to be made. This accounting principle is followed in a smooth manner. As a rule, animals delivered to kolkhoz farms from rural areas weigh in excess of 400 kilograms.

Cooperation is profitable to the kolkhoz. Last year, as a result of the meat produced on the private plots, it realized a net profit of 167,000 rubles. It is obvious that the rural residents suffered no loss, since their family budget was increasing considerably. For example, the "household farm" provided team leader G. Garash with more than 1,000 additional rubles.

Up until now, the kolkhoz workers were concerned only with fattening long-horned cattle on a cooperative basis. At the present time however, convinced regarding the advantages offered by the new work, they have undertaken to raise ducks.

In response to a TASS correspondent, the secretary of the Odesskaya Oblast Party Committee offered the following comments regarding the above facts:

Certainly, the public sector is the oblast's principal supplier of meat, milk, eggs and other livestock husbandry products. In devoting constant attention to intensifying its capabilities, we are not overlooking the development of the private plots. Experience accumulated in Savranskiy and a number of other rayons indicates that they possess great potential for increasing the production of meat.

This is not the first year that use has been made in the oblast of this additional source for augmenting the resources of livestock husbandry products. In addition to organizational measures, a great amount of explanatory work was also required for introducing cooperation into operations. It was carried out and is being carried out in conformity with the instructions handed down by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, who emphasized during the November (1978) Plenum of the CC CPSU: "A requirement exists for a definite social climate in which the kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers would feel that they are performing useful state work by raising livestock and poultry at home."

The development and approval of the conditions for raising livestock and poultry on a cooperative basis were preceded by thorough preparations. The bureau of the oblast's party committee held discussions on the methods for utilizing the potential of the private plots. The farm leaders and specialists, the deputies of local soviets and the rural workers all expressed their opinions. They submitted many interesting proposals and requests. The primary party organizations, village soviets, deputy committees and the general public were all called upon to carry out the plan as outlined.

We consider it important for the "household farms" to be developed taking into account the peculiarities of the various zones in the oblast. For example, the residents in the northern rayons, where many natural pastures are to be found, are raising mainly long-horned cattle. Certainly, this is not meant to imply that other types of livestock are not being maintained here. In the steppe portion a preference is being shown for the fattening of hogs and poultry.

The interrelationships between the public sector and the private plots, although they are developing in various ways, nevertheless serve to ensure the observance of mutual interests. For example, the Kolkhoz imeni Kutuzov in Tatarbunarskiy Rayon, which specializes in the production of goose meat, delivers the poultry to its partners free of charge. Several months later, following fattening on kolkhoz feed, 70 percent of the young stock are sold to the farm by the partners, who retain the remaining animals on their own territories. The Druzhba Kolkhoz in Saratskiy Rayon employs another system of accounts. After fattening two young pigs, a family of rural workers returns one to the kolkhoz free of charge and retains the other one. In this manner, the farm will obtain 85 additional tons of pork this year.

We are monitoring very attentively the use of the different forms of collaboration and how they are affecting increases in the number of livestock and poultry and, in the final analysis, an increase in the meat resources. At the same time, new and more valuable developments that have been checked in actual practice are being selected and introduced into operations on an extensive scale. Recently the partners in cooperation once again shared their experiences in collaboration and they raised a number of problems requiring solutions. Various and at times debatable opinions were expressed. But the participants in the oblast conference were unanimous with regard to the principal concern: cooperation is both necessary and profitable.

This opinion is convincingly borne out by operational experience.

The fattening schedules are being reduced noticeably as the result of including food waste products and gardening by-products in the rations. No longer is there a requirement for funds for use in the construction of livestock husbandry facilities and sites. In Savranksiy Rayon alone, cooperation brought about a savings in the form of six calf-houses, the overall value of which is approximately 1 million rubles. Of considerable importance also is the fact that today the subsidiary farms are providing assistance by attracting into public production, when not engaged in the principal occupation, pensioners, housewives, members of their families and kolkhoz members.

Thus, the initial results already testify to the fact that cooperation is important as an auxiliary source for augmenting the meat resources. More than 15,000 head of long-horned cattle, 9,000 hogs and 218,000 broilers, ducks and geese are presently being raised on private farms. In all, the plans for this year call for no less than 6,000 tons of meat, produced on "household farms," to be sold to the state.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED FOR MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATELY OWNED CATTLE

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 1 Oct 80 p 2

[Article by A. Glazkov, Smolensk - Bryansk - Kaluga: "A Fine Was Imposed"]

[Text] Prigorskoye is a new village containing modern homes with all conveniences. A spacious food store and dining hall sell milk and poultry meat to the workers. But many of the workers prefer to spend their free time in their gardens, tending their own subsidiary farm. Earlier they erected their own rough buildings. Today the management of the Talashkinskiy Poultry Factory has decided to create the conditions required for maintenance of the citizens' cattle. The amateurs are encouraged to maintain private plots by the fact that young pigs are sold to them from their own farm, organized 2 years ago for the purpose of supplying meat for public catering.

The workers believe that the subsidiary farm increases their family budget, provides a greater variety of food products for their dining tables and serves as a means for accustoming their children to agricultural labor. These are all important factors.

A rural individual is accustomed to problems arising in connection with his yard and garden. And he requires assistance -- not a great amount, but timely assistance. For example, let us take the procurement of hay. Where should it be mowed? When? At the Pamyat' Lenina Kolkhoz in Dorogobuzhskiy Rayon, this problem has been solved in the following manner: the kolkhoz members are provided with permanent tracts of haying land and the necessary equipment. And they are always supplied with feed. The same measures are followed at the Plamya Kolkhoz in Dukhovshchinskiy Rayon and at other farms. Similar to their gardens, the kolkhoz members tend these permanent tracts of haying land -- they cut down the undergrowth and grassy hillocks, they feed the grasses and they take two cuttings during the summer.

The grass harvests were especially good this year in the forest glades and low areas (there is still some remaining). The tractor mowers could not do the work, since there was no place for them to turn around. Certainly it could be carried out manually. Nevertheless, misunderstandings arose here and there over hay procurements for the privately owned cattle. This was discussed in a number of letters received from our readers.

At the Kasplyanskiy Sovkhoz in Smolenskaya Oblast, Mariya Petrovna Ivanova cut down a small amount of hay. A zootechnician came and took the hay away from the elderly

woman. It turned out that the hay had been mowed prior to the period established for commencing the mowing of hay for the private plots. The workers attached to the settlement's soviet had never found time to acquaint the residents of the small village of Lakisa with the feed procurement procedures. Hence a problem developed and one which could have been avoided.

With regard to grazing, a conflict arose between the workers at the Sudost' Sovkhoz in Pogarskiy Rayon in Bryanskaya Oblast on the one hand and the sovkhoz director A. Atroshenko and the chairman of the village soviet V. Koshev on the other. The pasture being used by the village's residents had been turned over to land reclamation specialists for the purpose of carrying out drainage work and no decision had been made as to where the private cattle could graze. When the cows were driven onto a neighboring tract, a fine was imposed on their owners. Not until a letter was sent into the editorial board and the rayon executive committee intervened was the grazing problem finally resolved. But was it not realized at the time the new specialized sovkhoz was created that some thought had to be given to the requirements of those workers maintaining cows?

The editorial board is also receiving reports regarding difficulties involved in the selling of the cattle. In particular, the residents of the village of Ustinov in Baryatinskiy Rayon in Kaluzhskaya Oblast are disturbed over this problem. Exactly what is the problem? It turned out that the local procurement office is not accepting live cattle.

Such letters testify to the fact that cattle procurement operations among the population have still not been organized properly. Yet experience in the organization of such operations is readily at hand. The operational experience of the Brasovskiy cooperators in Bryanskaya Oblast has already been discussed in SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN'. Through the rural stores, long-term agreements are being concluded there with the owners of private cattle and special machines are being sent out to the villages. Cannot this same experience be adopted by the Baryatinskiy cooperators?

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF PRIVATELY MAINTAINED CATTLE SCORED

Minsk SEL'SKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Jul 80 p 2

[Article by V. Fedorov: "Specific Measures Required"]

[Text] The following scene is often observed in Ushachskiy Rayon: a small group of cows grazing alongside a road, among shrubbery or along the edges of forests. There can be no doubt concerning to whom they belong: individuals in the private sector. They do not have definite pastures.

And it is for this reason that a reduction is taking place from year to year in the number of household cattle. For example, at the beginning of the five-year plan there were 6,077 cows being maintained on a private basis by rural residents and at the beginning of this year -- only 5,200. Such a reduction constitutes a substantial loss in milk. For example, under the extremely complicated conditions experienced last year, the population sold 2,533 tons of milk to the state -- roughly one seventh of the milk sales volume from the public sector.

True, they are trying to present the situation in another light in the agricultural administration of the rayon executive committee. Here they view the loss of 1,000 cows as a natural development. They maintain that elderly residents are not up to maintaining household cattle and thus they dispose of them. On the other hand, young families generally do not wish to burden themselves with a household economy.

Moreover, it is even maintained here that fair conditions exist for the privately owned cows. Much shrubbery is still available and this is sufficient for them. And it is too early to discuss allocating cultivated pastures for them, since there are still not enough such pastures available for the public herd.

Meanwhile, examples can be found within the rayon of greater concern being evidenced for the private cows. At the Glybochany Sovkhoz in the village of Glybochka, we saw a herd of peasant cows grazing on a cultivated pasture. The sovkhoz had undertaken to enrich this area with mineral fertilizers and liquid manure. This should serve to guide the leaders of other farms.

The Glybochka Village Soviet has on the whole achieved some positive results and thus conditions have improved for the private cattle of the population. Such categories of sovkhoz workers as machine operators, milkmaids and calfmaids are being provided with mowers, rakes and vehicles for transporting the feed procured, for use on the haying lands allotted to them.

Nevertheless, despite these improvements, reductions are still taking place in the number of cattle on the private farms. Here, just as in other areas throughout the rayon, the elderly kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers are disposing of their cows. And they are doing so only because they are being provided with less assistance in the form of feed.

The secretary of the executive committee of the Gorbatichskiy Village Soviet, V. Slepukha, also agreed that the reduction in privately owned cattle in the rural areas is being caused, by and large, by the fact that insufficient attention is being given to the needs of the owners of the cattle. Last year, 11 families sold their cattle owing to grazing and feed procurement difficulties.

"We truly have poor pastures for our private cattle" stated Vera Fedorovna, "Many complaints have been received from the population in this regard."

In short, everyone agrees that very poor support is being provided for the private cattle and that no specific measures are being proposed for improving the situation. At best, only general opinions are being expressed:

"We do not view the privately owned cattle as different.. But we are unable to make good pastures available. We are trying not to ignore the problem. We are thinking about installing electric fencing on the pastures for the private cows and of finding an individual to tend the cattle" stated the chairman of the Sovetskaya Belorussiya Kolkhoz, O. Leshchinskij.

Thus the concern for the privately owned cattle of kolkhoz members is reduced to mere promises. And no specific action is undertaken, not even actions of a very simple nature -- applying a top dressing to overgrazed pastures, resowing of grasses on such pastures -- all of which is fully within the capability of the kolkhoz.

Some kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders do not believe that the private owners of cattle are as helpless as they might like to appear and that feed is always laid in for winter use.

A typical discussion was held with the secretary of the Sorochinsk Village Soviet, S. Burak. She expressed alarm over the fact that last year alone, at populated points subordinate to the village soviet, the number of privately owned cows decreased by 25.

"And do you yourself maintain a cow?" I asked Stanislava Vikent'yevna.

"The maintenance of a private farm is a complicated affair and there is no time. I purchase my milk or I obtain it from relatives" she replied.

According to information furnished by the secretary of the village soviet, the agricultural specialists do not maintain either cows or hogs. On weekends and also on working days, they go to the city to obtain their meat and other products.

One listens to workers attached to the agricultural administration or to the chairmen and directors of certain farms and initially the impression forms that there really is no solution and that it is impossible to provide a better supply of

feed for the privately owned cattle. But this is not true. Many opportunities exist for doing so. Within the rayon there are 16,900 hectares of undergrowth and 7,000 hectares of swampland. And at such kolkhozes as the XXI Party "yezd, Druzhba, imeni Dubrovskiy and Progress, the non-agricultural land that is covered with undergrowth constitutes 50 percent or more of the overall area of land utilization. Use must be made of this land. A great amount of work can be carried out on this land during the inter-seasonal period between field operations, using technical and human resources.

The following data was furnished by senior zootechnician for the agricultural administration of the oblast executive committee, V. Beresten':

"Last year, against a plan calling for 70,000 tons, the oblast's population provided 88,785 tons of milk. Whether this is a large or small quantity, you can judge for yourself. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes sold 608,389 tons of milk."

It is apparent that the private sector provides substantial assistance. This assistance would be even greater if the number of cows was to be increased. However, it is decreasing. Compared to the beginning of the five-year plan, when the population had 158,500 cows, by 1980 this figure had fallen to 138,800. This process is being accelerated by the fact that proper concern is not being displayed for ensuring that the private cattle are provided with pastures during the summer and feed for the winter. This is borne out rather adequately by the facts cited for Ushachskiy Rayon.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

PROBLEMS IN PROCUREMENT OF PRIVATELY PRODUCED CATTLE, DAIRY PRODUCTS

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 13 Aug 80 p 2

[Article by P. Grigorenko, (Kuybyshevskaya, Penzenskaya and Ul'yanovskaya oblasts): "In a State of Neglect"]

[Text] In the offices of the executive committee of the Utevskiy Village Soviet, one could clearly hear the bass mooing of the dairy herd as it was returning from the pasture.

"And the owners of small animals, do they have everything they need?" asked the chairman of the executive committee, N.A. Denisov, as he closed the window more tightly, "If they decide to purchase a young pig, chicks or ducklings -- there is no great problem. The price? Kopecks!

The chairman hardly exaggerated the situation: at the Utevskiy Sovkhoz in Kuybyshevskaya Oblast, similar to other farms on the territory of the soviet, no great difficulty is encountered in attempting to increase the number of household livestock and poultry. The cost for young stock is not too expensive -- the price is within reach of all. And this problem is being resolved in a fine manner in the villages in Penzenskaya and Ul'yanovskaya oblasts. Fewer difficulties are being encountered in connection with supplying the private plots with feed. There are farms where those desiring to do so (for a definite fee) can establish gardens, dig up potatoes and transport vegetables and feed.

At the Sviyaga Kolkhoz in Kuzovatovskiy Rayon in Ul'yanovskaya Oblast, the administration and executive committee of the Chirikovskiy Village Soviet, by way of attempting to retain their personnel, are displaying special concern for the young families. These young people are provided with comfortable apartments having plots of land for vegetables and barns for livestock and poultry. The leaders reason as follows: it is not right for a kolkhoz member to buy all of his food at the market. In short, all measures are taken aimed at ensuring that the people can produce their own food products and still have some left over to sell as surplus products. However, many signals are still being received indicating the presence of abnormalities in this sector.

"Many people in the rural areas have household livestock" wrote Viktor V. of the Sovkhoz imeni Mikhalina in Penzenskaya Oblast, "But at times it is not known to whom they belong. The leaders of the sovkhоз and the village soviet use their own

discretion in disposing of the offspring and surplus products obtained from the private plots. There is a simple explanation: furnish assistance to your own sovkhoz in fulfilling the plan. "Is it possible that the fate of the public sector is dependent upon the individual sector?" wonders the author.

We held a discussion with the chairman of the Makhalin Village Soviet.

"No obstacles are in the path" we were assured by G.A. Anushkin.

The same assurance was given by two sovkhoz workers whom I visited together with the chairman. But I went to the village alone and heard an entirely different story. "Nearby there is a large city with a market. Recently we wished to sell a young bull. The sovkhoz would not furnish a certificate. This is not right. Why should we maintain an animal if we do not own it?" asked the offended K. Mishina and thereafter she added: "There are 7 of us in the family. We raise the animals in order to support the family and this is what happens?"

It did not turn out well. On 1 January of last year, there were 285 cows and 103 head of young horned cattle stock on the territory of the village soviet. Prior to the beginning of this year, the number of animals had decreased. Could this have happened here because they attempt crudely to interfere in family affairs or because they view the private farms only as a form of assistance for enabling the sovkhoz to fulfill its tasks for selling products to the state?

Reports have been received from Utevka Village in Neftegorskiy Rayon outlining the obvious breakdown in relationships with the private plots. Here the possibility of procuring feed for the livestock is dependent upon the sale of butter. Even the figure has been defined: 6 kilograms of pot butter per cow annually. It can be stated directly that very little benefit comes from this practice. The procurement of milk from the population has been curtailed completely in the rayon. Certainly, it is an easier matter to procure butter: it is not necessary to travel to all of the farmsteads and no concern need be displayed regarding the packaging or washing of it or delivering the products to the creamery. Just sit and wait until the individual requiring the feed brings the butter. The procurement specialists are not interested in the damage caused by this method. And the damage is apparent. One glances at the primitive method employed for producing the butter and wonders: would it not be easier to buy the 6 kilograms? In addition to Utevka Village, such incidents were also noted occurring at the Krasnoye Znamya Kolkhoz, the residents of which also recently sent a letter to SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN'. But who is to gain from such butter "circulation?"

I encountered similar procurement problems in Bezenguchskiy Rayon in Kuybyshevskaya Oblast. In the village of Kryazh there is not one farmstead that does not have at least a dozen hens and yet egg procurement operations have still not been organized. The work must be conducted by a salesman from the rural store. He procures according to his mood: sometimes he makes a purchase and there are times when he does not.

"For example, you are returning home with a fragile cargo" pensioner I.M. Frolov wrote to us.

I checked this signal at the site and everything was just as written in the note.

The village of Novyy Orenburg was nearby. I visited the rural store. All of the space behind the counter was occupied by baskets and boxes of eggs. The saleswoman, Taisiya Sherstneva, also serves as the procurement specialist. The area's residents willingly bring their surplus products to the store. Everyone is met here in a polite and cheerful manner. Last year, Taisiya Sherstneva procured three times more eggs than originally planned. Is it really wrong to organize the work in a neighborhood in this manner? And the situation with regard to dairy products is also bad in Novyy Orenburg. It has been 3 years since a collector was last seen here. What is the solution? They are procuring butter.

At the Kuybyshev State Inspectorate for Procurements and the Quality of Agricultural Products, I attempted to ascertain the causes for such disorganization in the procurement work. Chief Inspector V.P. Gavrilov and his deputy I.Kh. Blinov spent a great deal of time trying to convince me that all was in order. They even undertook to read the instruction handed down by the Ministry of Procurements. At this point, a pause ensued. Indeed, it was stated in the instruction: "As a rule, citizens will sell whole milk to the state and only in exceptional cases will they sell animal oil which they produced themselves." The term "in exceptional cases" was very emphatic. Indeed, this would include: bad roads, mountainous terrain and other complications. And here -- asphalt and a creamery nearby; so just go ahead and organize the procurements! "We did not make the arrangements" stated the workers at the inspectorate.

"Could it have been the oblast administration for the dairy industry?"

"By no means!" unanimously declared the deputy general director M.G. Pigin and the chief of the Department of Raw Materials and Marketing, P.S. Shopot.

Actually, nobody issued such instructions. It was simply a matter of this important work being neglected, or more exactly -- as little work as possible was carried out. The creameries accept the butter and subsequently they rely upon an arithmometer and multiply the butter obtained by the established coefficient. In this manner the butter is once again converted into milk on paper. This "paper milk" finds its way into the accounts.

It was almost as though arrangements had been made for those individuals responsible for the success of the procurement operations to avoid practice. Their colleagues in the Baltic republics, where milk procurement from the population was organized in an exemplary manner. Their experience is well known. So why not adopt it! There is even no need for traveling very far. This work has been organized in a fine manner even in the neighboring Ul'yanovskaya Oblast. In many populated points in Inzenskiy, Kuzovatovskiy and other rayons, the milk procurement work is entrusted as a rule to energetic individuals who are respected in the villages. The milk collectors accept it both in the villages and out on the pastures. The collectors are provided with the required transport vehicles, dishes, implements and measuring devices and they have money at their disposal for maintaining accounts with the milk suppliers. What are the results of this type of work organization? Last year, collector A.G. Chernova in Kuzovatovskiy Rayon procured an average of 926 kilograms of milk from each private plot in her village and L.M. Zotova -- as much as 1,437

kilograms per farm. During the past year, dozens of owners of household livestock sold 2,500 or more kilograms of products per cow. And in Kuznetskiy Rayon, where the above-mentioned Makhalinskiy Village Soviet is located, an average of 10 kilograms was procured per cow during this same period. The difference? It is still considerable!

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PRIVATE FARMING DESCRIBED

Minsk SEL'SKOYE KHOZYAYSTVO BELORUSSII in Russian No 10, Oct 80 p 21

[Article by A. I. Shegidevich, sector head of the Western Division of USSR Scientific Research Institute for Land Resources, and L. N. Lebed', senior specialist]

[Text] More than half of the gross output of agriculture (mainly for the market) is produced on kolkhozes and state farms. The private farming done by kolkhoz members, workers and employees represents a sizable share in the total harvest. But a portion of it is consumed in private farming and only what is left is sold to become state purchases or sold through the cooperatives, commission stores or directly on kolkhoz markets.

Kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers are the principal users (84.5 percent) of subsidiary plots in the republic. But the land is cultivated by workers and employees of nonagricultural enterprises, organizations and institutions of cities and urban settlements.

Many kolkhoz chairmen and sovkhoz directors are urgently promoting the private farming of their workers. The farm helps them to till their plots, to acquire livestock, to provide feed for the livestock, and to sell their products.

Attention should be paid to the experience of Neman Kolkhoz in Stolbtsovskiy Rayon. There a specially organized community service combine sees that fodder is harvested for private livestock. Its small crew tills the subsidiary plots, furnishes coarse feeds for the private livestock of kolkhoz members, and also barter mixed livestock feed for the milk it purchases from individuals. In Vileyskiy Rayon the Lyuban' Sovkhoz imeni 50-Letiye Velikogo Oktyabrya houses the dairy cows of workers in a barn that belongs to the farm and provides the feed. It is up to the owners to milk the cows and take their turn tending them once every 2 months. The payment for services and feed does not exceed 6 rubles per month per cow.

On the kolkhozes 40 Let Oktyabrya and Sovetskaya Belorussiya in Mostovskiy Rayon they are putting the experience of farms in Lithuanian SSR to use.

They are creating cultivated pastures near settlements for the livestock in the private sector on the basis of 0.3 hectare per head. The tethering system is used for management of the livestock. This experience has especially justified itself in places where the population is mainly of pensionable age.

The management of the Mirskiy Sovkhoz in Korelichskiy Rayon is extending a great deal of help to its workers in doing their own farming. The sovkhoz makes horses and equipment available to the workers to cultivate their homestead plots. Good pastures have been created near every settlement to pasture livestock, and feed is issued for winter. Veterinary service has been organized for the livestock in the private sector. In response to this concern the workers gladly sell their surplus milk to the state. Last year, for example, in the village Velikoye Selo milk purchases from individuals amounted to 1,932 kg per dairy cow.

And here is another example indicating that the concern for the private farming of farmworkers pays off in the form of a considerable amount of livestock products. Kolkhoz members of the Rassvet Kolkhoz in Tolochinskiy Rayon have 239 dairy cows of their own. Last year they sold to the state 1,090 kg of milk for each one of them. This is a sizable addition when one takes into account that the average dairy cow in the socialized herd gave 2,614 kg. A half kilogram of mixed feed is sold for every milker per liter of milk that is sold. In addition 0.2 hectare of meadow and half a ton of straw are allocated.

Inclusion of the plots of kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers and employees in fields covered by crop rotation is an important measure toward optimum use of homestead land. The effectiveness of this measure can be confirmed by the example of the Stayki Sovkhoz in Vileyiskiy Rayon, whose experience was approved by the Presidium of the Belorussian Supreme Soviet in 1978.

All the homestead plots, on which potatoes had been raised for a prolonged period of time, were included in field crop rotations. The farm took upon itself to organize the operations from planting to the harvesting of the potatoes. This way of going about the job is beneficial both to the sovkhoz and also to the workers and employees. The point is that the farm was able to hire on a permanent basis dozens of people for livestock raising and field cropping, and the sovkhoz worker pays a fairly acceptable charge of 40 kopecks per 0.01 hectare for the entire cycle of operations in raising the potatoes. The kolkhoz 40 Let Oktyabrya in Kamenetskiy Rayon, the Novoye Pol's'e Sovkhoz in Soligorskiy Rayon and a number of other farms provide examples of good use of homestead land.

The constructive experience of the farms in extending aid to farmworkers in doing their private farming needs to be introduced on all the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The effort will be repaid 100 times over.

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IMPORTANCE OF SUBSIDIARY ENTERPRISE STRESSED

Minsk SEL'SKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Dec 80 p 2

[Article by L. Kotov, deputy chairman of the board of the Belorussian Cooperative Alliance]

[Text] Enterprises and organizations in the consumer cooperative system have quite an important role in improving the supply of foodstuffs to the population of the republic. Last year, for example, 1,545 tons of meat were produced by the feed lots of the food service industry and other enterprises. Not bad, but it could have been better. We have been ordered to bring meat production of all types of livestock and poultry up to 10,000 tons by 1983, rabbit meat up to 6,000 tons, and vegetables up to at least 50,000 tons. I consider it timely and proper for the draft of the "Basic Directions" to include mention of the need to increase the production of meat, milk, potatoes, vegetables and fruit on the subsidiary farms of enterprises, organizations and institutions and its statement that they should be extended every type of assistance in acquiring young animals, livestock feed, seed and fertilizer.

The intention of our industry that all consumer cooperative enterprises and organizations have subsidiary farms was announced last year. Even now we are producing pork, beef and poultry meat. We have organized the raising of pedigree rabbits for sale to individuals. Beginning in 1981 vegetables will be grown both in open plots and in greenhouses. We are fitting out greenhouses in rayon consumer alliances and rayon consumer societies on the basis of at least 1,000 square meters in each one.

The enterprises of the republic's consumer cooperative system need about 20,000 hectares of land to produce the volume of output targeted for the 11th Five-Year Plan. But at present we are unable to cultivate that amount of land. That is why subsidiary farms and livestock feed lots have been set up in association with all rayon procurement offices, food service associations, consumer societies, bread bakeries and other enterprises which have available land. On small plots it would be good to use small tractors with a set of various attachments. They have already made their appearance, as we know, but there are few of them as yet. That is why we believe that

the "Basic Directions", where they speak about development of machinebuilding, should mention the production of specifically this equipment and its delivery to rural areas.

This July the board of the Belorussian Cooperative Alliance held a republic seminar using the facilities of four rayon consumer alliances and rayon consumer societies in Grodnenskaya Oblast, where experience has been gained in organizing and managing subsidiary farms. Board chairmen of oblast consumer alliances, their deputies for procurements, and heads of the rayon consumer cooperative unit took part in the proceedings of the seminar. The topics of the interaction of the branches of agriculture and of the organization of production and work were studied through the examples of the existing livestock raising projects, feed lots, forage land, and plots for raising vegetables. The participants in this seminar found a particular abundance of useful things to see in Grodnyshkiy, Volkovyskiy and Svislochskiy Rayons, where subsidiary farms have undergone considerable development.

Party and soviet authorities are rendering us a great deal of help in carrying out these measures. In addition to furnishing livestock and poultry for livestock raising operations and feed lots, in many rayons they are already turning over plots of land to the consumer cooperative system from state forestlands as well as farmland which kolkhozes and sovkhozes are not using. This year alone about 2,500 hectares of land have been turned over to subsidiary enterprises. Be it noted that at the beginning of the year they had only 214 hectares. Of all this land 1,412 hectares were planted to farm crops.

The problems of housing livestock and poultry are being solved. Emphasis is being put on expansion and reconstruction of existing buildings and structures. In a number of rayons construction of hoghouses for 200-400 head has begun. The republic now has 799 livestock-raising operations and feed lots in operation, including 155 feed lots for cattle, 18 for sheep, 55 for poultry, 194 rabbit farms and stations for raising young pedigree rabbits. They contain about 32,000 hogs, 7,500 head of cattle, 920 sheep, 28,000 rabbits and 20,000 head of poultry.

In Pruzhanskiy Rayon livestock-raising operations and feed lots now have 100 head of cattle, 530 hogs, 300 rabbits and more than 1,000 head of poultry. Its subsidiary farms are successfully coping with fulfillment of plans for production and procurement of meat and for increasing the number of livestock. They also have their own foremen, who are achieving high indicators. For instance, the foreman for raising and fattening livestock of the Pruzhanskaya Oblast Food Service Industry, Anna Alekseyevna Yevtyushina, who has charge of 220 hogs, is getting a 430-g average daily weight gain per hog, and since the beginning of the year she has fattened and sold 50 hogs.

The organization of the production of beef on the subsidiary farm of the Bobruyskiy Rayon Consumer Society, where a good material and technical base has been built, is worthy of attention. It has 140 head of cattle in its fattening operation. The animals are furnished adequate amounts of roughage and succulent feeds. Thanks to this good care and optimum use of forage the average daily weight gain of the animals is 700-800 g.

Workers on the livestock-raising farms and feed lots of cooperative organizations in Baranovichskiy, Pinskiy, Beshenkovichskiy, Svetlogorskiy, Pukhovichskiy, Belynichskiy and other rayons are achieving good results in meat production and the growth of herds. Moreover, the proportion of meat produced on subsidiary farms of individual rayon consumer alliances is about 30 percent of the total volume of procurements.

Since the beginning of the year the subsidiary farms of the consumer cooperative system have produced 12,474 quintals of meat of all types of livestock and poultry on the basis of live weight, which is 115 percent of the target and 17.8 percent more than in 1979. In that period more than 11,000 hogs with an average individual weight of 96 kg were delivered from fattening, and 650 head of cattle and more than 38,000 head of poultry were also fattened and sold.

Socialist competition has been staged among collectives of oblast and rayon consumer alliances and livestock farms and feed lots in order to further increase the volume of production of meat and vegetables and to raise production efficiency. The results of the competition are totaled up on a semiannual basis and take into account indicators for the growth of herds and the rise of productivity of livestock and poultry, the cost of weight gain, the number of young animals obtained, the raising of young pedigree rabbits, and the collection and use of food scraps.

The personnel of subsidiary farms now face one of the most difficult periods of operation--the wintering of the livestock. In certain rayons, on certain farms and at certain feed lots there is not enough feed, and there is a shortage of housing. That is why the efforts of all personnel in the consumer cooperative system involved with the production of the products of animal husbandry are aimed at seeking out additional sources of feed, above all by procuring and making optimum use of the scrap of food enterprises and slaughtering stations. In addition to stepping up procurements of food scraps, measures are being taken so that effective use of forage is provided for everywhere. Livestock feed steamers and grinding mills have been installed and are now in operation on hog farms in half the rayons. The task is to see that all livestock farms and large feed lots have facilities for feed preparation in 1981.

The collectives of subsidiary farms of the consumer cooperative system in the republic are working not only to fulfill and overfulfill plans and obligations of the current year, but also to create a sound basis for successful operation in the 11th Five-Year Plan.

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